



# Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

## Regular Board Meeting

DATE: April 21, 2015  
TIME: 7:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Hidden Valley Lake CSD  
Administration Office, Boardroom  
19400 Hartmann Road  
Hidden Valley Lake, CA

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 3) ROLL CALL
- 4) APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  
- 5) CONSENT CALENDAR
  - (A) MINUTES: Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting March 17, 2015
  
  - (B) DISBURSEMENTS: check #032642 – 032713 for a total of \$216,403.38.
  
  - (C) ADOPT RESOLUTION 2015-06 authorizing General Manager to submit CAL EMA (Emergency Management Agency) Application for reimbursement of December 2014 storm damage expenses
  
- 6) STAFF PRESENTATION: Proposed water and sewer rates
  
- 7) PUBLIC HEARING pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.6 to consider approval of Ordinance # 56 adopting amended water user fees
  
- 8) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: approval of Ordinance # 56 adopting amended water user fees
  
- 9) PUBLIC HEARING pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.6 to consider approval of Ordinance # 57 adopting amended sewer user fees
  
- 10) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: approval of Ordinance # 57 adopting amended sewer user fees
  
- 11) PUBLIC COMMENT
  
- 12) BOARD MEMBER COMMENT
  
- 13) ADJOURNMENT

Public records are available upon request. Board Packets are posted on our website at [www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com](http://www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com). Click on the "Board Packet" link on the Agenda tab.

In compliance to the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special accommodations to participate in or attend the meeting please contact the District Office at 987-9201 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

Public shall be given the opportunity to comment on each agenda item before the Governing Board acts on that item, G.C. 54953.3. All other comments will be taken under Public Comment.



**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING DATE: MARCH 17, 2015**

The Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District Board of Directors met this evening at the District office located at 19400 Hartmann Road, in Hidden Valley Lake, California. Present were:

Director Jim Freeman, President  
Director Jim Lieberman, Vice President  
Director Judy Mirbегian  
Director Carolyn Graham  
Director Linda Herndon  
Roland Sanford, General Manager

Absent - Tami Ipsen, Administrative Services Officer

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Freeman.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion made by Director Mirbегian and second by Director Lieberman the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

On a motion made by Director Graham and second by Director Herndon the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Calendar items:

- (A) MINUTES: Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting February 17, 2015
- (B) DISBURSEMENTS: check #032575-#03264 for \$240,573.17
- (C) AUTHORIZATION FOR BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE at May 5-8, 2015 Spring ACWA Conference in Sacramento, California

**BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Personnel Committee: No report

Finance Committee: No report

Emergency Preparedness Program Committee: Director Lieberman stated that a committee meeting is scheduled for March 31, 2015

## **BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT OTHER MEETINGS**

ACWA Region 1 Board: Director Mirbegian reported the ACWA Region 1 Board had met and discussed a variety of topics, including pending hexavalent chromium legislation, implementation of Proposition 1 funding, the ongoing drought, and the forthcoming Spring ACWA conference. She noted that ACWA Region 1 will be hosting a program, "A North Coast Cannabis Conundrum", at the Spring ACWA conference.

ACWA State Legislative Committee: Director Herndon reported that the Legislative Committee is scheduled to meet in late March.

County OES: Director Lieberman reported that the next County OES meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2015.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

General Manager's Report: In addition to his written report, General Manager Roland Sanford reported the State Water Resources Control Board had met earlier in the day and voted to extend and expand the emergency water use restrictions currently in effect, statewide.

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Designation of two District representatives to HVLCSD/HVLA Lake Committee for 2015 calendar year**

After discussion, Board President Jim Freeman appointed Director Herndon and Director Mirbegian to serve as the District's representatives on the HVLCSD/HVLA Lake Committee for the 2015 calendar year.

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Status of new water hook up moratorium (HVLCSD Compliance Order No 02 03 14R 004)**

General Manager Roland Sanford reported Units 4 and 5 of the Hidden Valley Lake subdivision have been officially excluded from the current water hookup moratorium, and that he is currently in discussions with State Water Resources Control Board staff with regard to the remaining portions of the District's water service area.

### **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: District compliance with new hexavalent drinking water standard – status update**

General Manager Roland Sanford reported that pursuant to the State's new hexavalent chromium drinking water standard, the District would be sampling for hexavalent chromium next week, not only at the District's municipal wells, but also other locations within the region. Mr. Sanford explained that the hexavalent chromium sampling results obtained to date suggest that surface and ground waters north of Putah Creek exhibit low chromium concentrations and therefore, could potentially be used in lieu of or in conjunction with the District's existing municipal wells, as a means of complying with the State's new hexavalent chromium drinking water standard.

**DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: Board member medical benefits**

General Manager Roland Sanford reported staff is investigating the feasibility of instituting a "cafeteria" health benefits plan for District staff – as a means of controlling health insurance costs - and inquired whether or not the Board had any interest in implementing such a plan for District staff and Board members. The Board expressed interest and directed staff to gather additional information on cafeteria health plans, for discussion at the May 19, 2015 Board of Directors meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

There were no Board member comments.

**CLOSED SESSION: Consultation and advice from legal counsel regarding pending litigation (one case/multiple claims). California Government Code Section 54956.9 (a)**

The Board went into closed session at 8:35 p.m. and returned to open session at 9:00 p.m. Upon returning to open session, Director Freeman announced that no reportable action was taken in Closed Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Director Herndon and second by Director Mirbegian the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Freeman                      Date  
President of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roland Sanford                      Date  
General Manager/Secretary to  
the Board



**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

March 2015

DISBURSEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

3/1/2015-3/31/2015

**Disbursement Summary**

<b>Fund</b>		
120 - Sewer	\$	71,116.81
130 - Water	\$	99,638.67
215 - USDA Sewer Bond	\$	-
217 - State Loan	\$	-
218 - CIEDB	\$	-
219 - USDA Solar Project	\$	-
375 - Sewer Reserve Improvement	\$	-
711 - Bond Administration	\$	-
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>170,755.48</b>
<b>*Payroll</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>45,647.90</b>
<b>Total Warrants</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>216,403.38</b>

*\*Funds disbursed directly to employees and Directors. Pass-thru funds (collected from the employee and paid on their behalf by the District) are included in totals for funds 120 and 130.*



**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**MARCH 2015**

DISBURSEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

3/1/2015-3/31/2015

<b>DRAFT DATE</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CHECK AMOUNT</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
03/06/2015	D	BANK-DRAFT	US DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY	4,852.07	P
03/06/2015	D	BANK-DRAFT	NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTION	1,180.00	P
03/20/2015	D	BANK-DRAFT	US DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY	4,866.89	P
03/20/2015	D	BANK-DRAFT	NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTION	1,180.00	P
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>12,078.96</b>	

<b>CHECK DATE</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>CHECK NUMBER</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>CHECK AMOUNT</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
03/06/2015	R	32642	BARTLEY PUMP, INC.	320.35	P
03/06/2015	R	32643	STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION	330.00	P
03/06/2015	R	32644	COASTLAND CIVIL ENGINEERING, I	5,065.00	P
03/06/2015	R	32645	KAREN JENSEN	67.20	P
03/06/2015	R	32646	MEDIACOM	358.99	P
03/06/2015	R	32647	RICOH AMERICAS CORPORATION	183.43	P
03/06/2015	R	32648	TAMI IPSEN	303.53	P
03/06/2015	R	32649	ADVANCED SECURITY SYSTEMS SANT	282.00	P
03/06/2015	R	32650	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	318.00	P
03/06/2015	R	32651	ANALYTICAL SCIENCES	574.00	P
03/06/2015	R	32652	BARTLEY PUMP, INC.	475.15	P
03/06/2015	R	32653	EEL RIVER FUELS, INC.	913.21	P
03/06/2015	R	32654	JAMES DAY CONSTRUCTION, INC.	8,769.62	P
03/06/2015	R	32655	PACE SUPPLY CORP	393.26	P
03/06/2015	R	32656	USA BLUE BOOK	713.05	P
03/06/2015	R	32657	CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RE	7,703.55	P
03/06/2015	R	32658	STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDD	1,530.08	P
03/06/2015	R	32659	VARIABLE ANNUITY LIFE INSURANC	100.00	P
03/06/2015	R	32660	GUTMANN, ANDREW R.	70.68	P
03/06/2015	R	32661	MORGAN, AL	37.81	P
03/06/2015	R	32662	STETSON, STEVE	110.84	P
03/13/2015	R	32663	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	496.00	P
03/13/2015	R	32664	ARMED FORCE PEST CONTROL, INC.	135.00	P
03/13/2015	R	32665	E & M ELECTRIC & MACHINERY, IN	3,579.14	P
03/13/2015	R	32666	EEL RIVER FUELS, INC.	543.57	P
03/13/2015	R	32667	HARDESTER'S MARKETS & HARDWARE	17.18	P
03/13/2015	R	32668	KATHY FOWLER CHRYSLER - JEEP -	53.35	P
03/13/2015	R	32669	MENDO MILL CLEARLAKE	71.92	P
03/13/2015	R	32670	PACE SUPPLY CORP	2,039.28	P
03/13/2015	R	32671	PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY	8,056.09	P
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>43,611.28</b>	

CHECK DATE	TYPE	CHECK NUMBER	NAME	CHECK AMOUNT	STATUS
03/13/2015	R	32672	USA BLUE BOOK	4,143.06	P
03/13/2015	R	32673	ACWA/JPIA	959.89	P
03/13/2015	R	32674	AT&T	648.12	P
03/13/2015	R	32675	CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RE	600.00	P
03/13/2015	R	32676	DATAPROSE	419.24	P
03/13/2015	R	32677	GARDENS BY JILLIAN	200.00	P
03/13/2015	R	32678	GHD	6,090.75	P
03/13/2015	R	32679	LAKE COUNTY RECORD BEE	151.62	P
03/13/2015	R	32680	LAKE COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL DIS	156.07	P
03/13/2015	R	32681	NBS GOVERNMENT FINANCE GROUP	2,870.00	P
03/13/2015	R	32682	ROLAND SANFORD	115.06	P
03/13/2015	R	32683	SOUTH LAKE REFUSE COMPANY	169.62	P
03/13/2015	R	32684	SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEME	33,863.18	P
03/13/2015	R	32685	WREGIS	100.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32686	OFFICE DEPOT	501.49	P
03/20/2015	R	32687	ELLISON, SCHNEIDER & HARRIS L.	13,267.17	P
03/20/2015	R	32688	MERRILL, ARNONE & JONES, LLP	1,425.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32689	SPECIALIZED UTILITY SERVICES	3,100.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32690	TYLER TECHNOLOGY	121.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32691	WAGNER & BONSIGNORE	13,778.71	P
03/20/2015	R	32692	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	1,030.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32693	CALIFORNIA RURAL WATER ASSOCIA	850.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32694	E & M ELECTRIC & MACHINERY, IN	490.76	P
03/20/2015	R	32695	PACE SUPPLY CORP	1,245.88	P
03/20/2015	R	32696	ROSEMARY YOUNG	100.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32697	USA BLUE BOOK	2,715.51	P
03/20/2015	R	32698	VERIZON WIRELESS	618.94	P
03/20/2015	R	32699	WEED TECH	2,350.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32700	STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDDVOIDED	1,490.20	P
03/20/2015	R	32700	STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDDVOIDED	(1,490.20)	P
03/20/2015	R	32701	CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RE	7,818.23	P
03/20/2015	R	32702	STATE OF CALIFORNIA EDD	1,456.39	P
03/20/2015	R	32703	VARIABLE ANNUITY LIFE INSURANC	100.00	P
03/20/2015	R	32704	MOSS, JAMES E	76.77	P
03/27/2015	R	32705	CARDMEMBER SERVICE	10,079.69	P
03/27/2015	R	32706	MICHELLE HAMILTON	625.00	P
03/27/2015	R	32707	OFFICE DEPOT	58.51	P
03/27/2015	R	32708	REDFORD SERVICES	950.00	P
03/27/2015	R	32709	ROLAND SANFORD	38.13	P
03/27/2015	R	32710	LEIBOWITZ, SUZANNE	187.07	P
03/27/2015	R	32711	ALPHA ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES	632.00	P
03/27/2015	R	32712	HACH COMPANY	297.38	P
03/27/2015	R	32713	ROTO-ROOTER OF LAKE COUNTY	665.00	P
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>115,065.24</b>	

<b>PAYROLL:</b>					
<b>DATE</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
03/06/2015	MISC.		PAYROLL DIRECT DEPOSIT	21,430.18	p
03/20/2015	MISC.		PAYROLL DIRECT DEPOSIT	21,371.79	p
03/27/2015	MISC.		PAYROLL DIRECT DEPOSIT	2,845.93	p
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>45,647.90</b>	

<b>CHECK TOTAL:</b>	<b>158,676.52</b>
<b>BANK-DRAFT TOTAL:</b>	<b>12,078.96</b>
<b>PAYROLL TOTAL:</b>	<b>45,647.90</b>
	<b>216,403.38</b>



**ACTION OF  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**DATE:** April 21, 2015

**AGENDA ITEM:** ADOPT RESOLUTION 2015-06 authorizing General Manager to submit CAL EMA (Emergency Management Agency) Application for reimbursement of December 2014 storm damage expenses

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Adopt Resolution 2015-06 authorizing General Manager to submit CAL EMA (Emergency Management Agency) application for reimbursement of \$38,889.03 December 2014 storm damage expenses.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Possible \$38,889.03 reimbursement of unbudgeted expenses associated with the maintenance of District facilities during the 2014 December storms.

**BACKGROUND:**

Last December a pair of short but remarkably intense storm systems nearly overwhelmed the District's sewer collection system and treatment plant. In one 24-hour period Hidden Valley Lake received seven inches of rain. Portions of the District's sewer collection system are over 40 years old, are leaky, and are therefore prone to capturing storm water runoff. During and shortly after each of the two storm events considerable water, much of it actually storm water runoff as opposed to sewage, entered the collection system at rates that approached and at times exceeded the maximum capacity of the collection system. In order to avoid costly raw sewage spills, contractors were retained to remove excess water from the sewer collection system and "Equalization Basin" (a temporary raw wastewater storage facility at the Reclamation Plan).

As a result of the December 2014 storms and associated damage caused, Lake and Tehama counties were declared disaster areas by Governor Brown, thereby making both counties eligible for financial assistance through the CAL EMA Governor's Office of Emergency Services (see attached CAL EMA fact sheet). Staff has prepared and submitted an application to CAL EMA for reimbursement of \$38,889.03 in storm damage costs. However CAL EMA cannot formally act on the District's application until a fully executed "Applicant's Agent Resolution" – a document that formally designates one or more individuals to act on behalf of the District - is received. The proposed Resolution 2015-06 (copy attached) designates the District's General Manager as the authorized agent for the current and any additional CAL EMA damage reimbursement applications the District may submit in the next three years.

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APPROVED  
AS RECOMMENDED

OTHER  
(SEE BELOW)

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Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

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I, Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE) by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent

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Secretary to the Board



**CALIFORNIA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**



**2014 DECEMBER STORMS  
CDAA-2014-07  
FACT SHEET**

**DESIGNATED COUNTIES**

Lake and Tehama

**DECLARATION DATE**

February 20, 2015

**INCIDENT PERIOD**

November 30 to December 31, 2014

**DISASTER NUMBER AND TYPE**CDAA-2014-07  
2014 December Storms**ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**Cities  
CountiesSpecial Districts  
School DistrictsCommunity College Districts  
Certain Private Non-Profit Organizations**AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE - PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM****EMERGENCY WORK**Debris Removal (**Category A**)Emergency Response and Protective Measures (**Category B**)**PERMANENT WORK**Roads and Bridges (**Category C**)  
Water Control Facilities (**Category D**)  
Buildings and Equipment (**Category E**)Utilities (**Category F**)  
Parks, Recreational Facilities, Other Items (**Category G**)**IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION**

Application packets must contain the following:

- *Project Application California Disaster Assistance Act Program form (Cal EMA Form 126)*
- *List of Projects (Cal EMA 95)*
- *Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution (Cal EMA Form 130)*

*Note: A Designation of Applicant's Resolution is required if one has not been submitted within the past three years. If you have any questions regarding these forms, contact the Cal OES Public Assistance Grant Processing Unit at (916) 845-8110.*

**Applications must be received by the Public Assistance Division at the address below  
no later than Monday, April 20, 2015**

Ms. Stacy Mason-Vegna  
Recovery Infrastructure Branch Chief  
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
Public Assistance Division  
3650 Schriever Avenue  
Mather, CA 95655  
Attn: CDAA-2014-07

**DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT RESOLUTION  
RESOLUTION 2015-06**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
(Governing Body) (Name of Applicant)

THAT GENERAL MANAGER  
(Title of Authorized Agent)

Is hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District,  
(Name of Applicant)  
a public entity established under the laws of the State of California, this application and to file it with the California Emergency Management Agency for the purpose of obtaining certain federal financial assistance under Public Law 93-288 as amended by Robert T Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistant Act of 1988, and/or state financial assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act.

THAT the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District, a public entity established under the  
(Name of Applicant)  
laws of the State of California, hereby authorizes its agent(s) to provide to the California Emergency Management Agency for all matters pertaining to such state disaster assistance the assurances and agreements required.

**Please check the appropriate box below:**

- This is a universal resolution and is effective for all open and futures disasters up to three (3) years following the date of approval below.  
 This is a disaster specific resolution and is effective for only disaster number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Passed and approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2015 by the following votes:

Ayes:  
Noes:  
Absent:  
Abstain:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
General Manager/Secretary to the Board



**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE REPORT  
MEETING DATE: MARCH 31, 2015**

The Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District (COMMITTEE) Committee met at the District office located at 19400 Hartmann Road, in Hidden Valley Lake, California. Present were:

Director Jim Lieberman  
General Manager Roland Sanford  
Administrative Services Officer Tami Ipsen

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Jim Lieberman.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On a motion made by Director Lieberman and second the Committee unanimously approved the agenda.

**REVIEW AND DISCUSS COORDINATION WITH COUNTY OES**

The Committee discussed and commended Ms. Marisa Chilafoe's efforts, on behalf of County OES, to secure December 2014 storm disaster relief funding for Lake County, from the California Emergency Management Agency (formally Cal OES).

**DISCUSS COMMITTEE WORK PLAN AND GOALS FOR 2015**

The Committee identified two projects for 2015; the planning and execution of an emergency response "table top" exercise; and the development of plans and specifications, and cost estimates for construction of at least one municipal wellhead enclosure at the District's Grange Road municipal well field.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion made by Director Lieberman and second the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.



# County of Lake Operational Area Disaster Committee

Office of Emergency Services  
255 North Forbes Street, Lakeport, California 95453

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## Regular Meeting of the Lake Operational Area Disaster Committee

March 19, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.

**Kelseyville Fire Protection District, Station 55  
4020 Main Street, Kelseyville, CA 95451**

### Agenda

- 1) Welcome and Introductions:
- 2) Review and Approval of January 15, 2015, Meeting Minutes
- 3) Operations:
  - a) Drought – Marisa Chilafoe
  - b) Winter Storms – Marisa Chilafoe
- 4) Planning:
  - a) Emergency Operations Plan (“EOP”) Updates – Marisa Chilafoe:
    - i) Interim Updates
  - b) Care & Shelter Workgroup
  - c) Training:
    - i) CERT Program Update – Marisa Chilafoe
    - ii) County of Lake ICS and EOC Training Update – Marisa Chilafoe
- 5) Logistics:
  - a) First Net Communications Update – Marisa Chilafoe / Brian Martin
  - b) Central Dispatch
  - c) County/Op Area EOC Project – Marisa Chilafoe
- 6) Finance/Administration:
  - a) Grant Funding/Status Update – Marisa Chilafoe
    - i) Homeland Security Grant Program, FY 2014
    - ii) Emergency Management Performance Grant, FY 2014
- 7) Upcoming Events
- 8) Good of the Order
- 9) Adjourn



# County of Lake – Lake Operational Area Disaster Committee

Office of Emergency Services  
255 North Forbes Street, Lakeport, California 95453

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## Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Lake Operational Area Disaster Committee (“Op Area”)

January 15, 2015

**Kelseyville Fire Protection District  
4020 Main Street, Kelseyville, CA 95451**

The regular meeting of the Op Area, was held on Thursday, January, 2015, at the Kelseyville Fire Protection District in Kelseyville, California. Marisa Chilafoe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The following members were in attendance: Marisa Chilafoe, Lake County Office of Emergency Services (“Lake OES”); Jen Gonzalez, Lake OES; Jen Jones, Lake OES; Kris Eutenier, Agricultural Commissioner; Greg Bertelli, California Department of Forestry & Fire (“Cal Fire”); Linda Juntunen, Lake County Fire Safe Council; Charles G. Russ, Hidden Valley Lake Association Security; Jay Beristianos, Northshore Fire; Karen Tait, Public Health; Rory McCarthy, Public Health; Bill Davidson, Animal Control; Roger Sigtermans, California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (“Cal OES”); Greg Scott, Lakeport Police; Doug Hutchison, Lakeport Fire; Lyle Swartz, Lake County Public Works; Teresa Jolin, Central Dispatch; Debbie Yee, Red Cross; Monte Winters, Spring Valley C.E.R.T; Scott Harter, Special Districts; Sheriff Brian Martin, Lake County Sheriffs Office; Undersheriff Chris Macedo, Lake County Sheriffs Office; Mike Stone, Kelseyville Fire; Kim Miinch, North Coast EMS; Caroline Chavez, Lake County Public Services; Jim Wright, Cal Fire.

**1) Welcome – Marisa Chilafoe:**

Marisa welcomed everyone in attendance to the regular meeting of the Lake Op Area.

**2) Review of September 18, 2014, Meeting Minutes – Marisa Chilafoe:**

The Op Area reviewed the minutes of the September 18, 2014, meeting. On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the minutes were approved as proposed by those present.

**3) Operational Area (“Op Area”) Presentation:**

Marisa advised the attendees that a sign-up sheet is available for future presentations for anyone interested.

**4) Operations**

*a) Drought Task Force – Marisa Chilafoe:*

Marisa reported that the Rumsey gage was not quite at the 3 foot mark yet. Nine systems have been categorized as vulnerable or critical to the State Water Resources Control Board, seven of which have sought grant funding to date. The emergency drought declaration is still in place. A drought workshop is currently being planned for the spring.

*b) Winter Storms – Marisa Chilafoe:*

Marisa reported that Lake County encountered widespread flooding during the December storms. Marisa also reported that state assistance has been requested and that the estimated damage is approximately \$4.1 million. There is no individual assistance available, but possible assistance for public infrastructure such as roads, bridges, debris clean-up, emergency protective measures, response costs, etc.

*c) Lake Haven Motel Fire- Chief Beristianos:*

Chief Beristianos reported that firefighters were able to confine the fire to one unit and that a total of 16 people were displaced, and ten were in need of assistance from the American Red Cross ("ARC"). An agreement was made with the ARC for care and shelter activities in Lake County. The families that were displaced are waiting to hear back from the hotel owner about fixing the hotel, as of the present no update had been provided.

Debbie Yee from ARC reported that they are working towards increasing the volunteer pool in Lake County and they would like to train Lake County employees and residents in assisting with activities such as these.

## 5) Planning

*a) Emergency Operations Plan ("EOP"):*

- i) Interim Updates are in progress, once complete they will be distributed to the Planning Workgroup for initial review.
- ii) Marisa reported that the Care and Shelter Annex is a priority and that the Care and Shelter Workgroup has been meeting regularly. Marisa also reported that the Care and Shelter Workgroup would like to explore the purchase of equipment to provide activities during a response.

*b) Training:*

- i) Marisa reported that she is working with Spring Valley to set up CERT training and that Monte Winters would be leading as CERT Captain for Spring Valley. Marisa also reported that she is working with the Clear Lake Rivera Community Association to set up CERT training and disaster preparedness for that neighborhood as well.
- ii) Marisa reported that County of Lake is close to meeting the ICS training goal, which will be followed with future training and exercises.

## 6) Logistics

*a) First Net Communications Update:*

Marisa stated that at this time there are no new updates to report.



*b) Central Dispatch Users Committee – Teresa Jolin:*

Teresa reported that a public health nurse contacted central dispatch and requested assistance that central dispatch was unable to provide. Teresa stated that her goal is to see additional communication between the user groups and services that all agencies provide.

*c) County/Op Area EOC Update:*

Marisa reported that the EOC project is ongoing, with a few engineering issues to be addressed before the lease could be completed. If all goes smoothly, Lake OES could possibly move to the new facility in March. Marisa also thanked everyone for their donations and support of the new direction of Lake OES. Alternate facilities are also being reviewed to keep the EOC project moving.

**7) Finance and Administration**

*a) Grant Funding/Status Update:*

Marisa reported that anyone who was awarded grant funding has received an award letter and explained the Lake OES inventory and labeling system.

**8) Upcoming events:**

Cal Fire announced that the inmates would be conducting a pre-fire exercise on April 29th & 30<sup>th</sup> and that everyone is welcome to attend.

**9) Good of the Order:**

Marisa advised everyone that Caroline Chavez would be the backup EOC manager. Debbie Yee from the Red Cross provided the group with the new number, 1-866-272-2237 for regional 24-hour dispatch services.

**10) Adjourn:**

With no further business to come before the Op Area, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

***HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT***

**MARCH 2015**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**





**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**MARCH 2015  
Financial Report**

REVENUE & EXPENSE SEWER REPORT  
3/1/2015-3/31/2015

<b>120-SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET BALANCE</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>1,006,300.00</b>	<b>12,435.69</b>	<b>695,902.60</b>	<b>310,397.40</b>	<b>69.15</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE SUMMARY</b>					
NON-DEPARTMENTAL	350,606.00	40,534.30	343,650.60	6,955.40	98.02
ADMINISTRATION	312,539.00	28,437.77	259,749.25	52,789.75	83.11
FIELD	299,954.00	18,173.66	188,005.08	111,948.92	62.68
DIRECTORS	43,201.00	3,118.64	27,241.51	15,959.49	63.06
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,006,300.00</b>	<b>90,264.37</b>	<b>818,646.44</b>	<b>187,653.56</b>	<b>81.35</b>

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET BALANCE</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
120-4020 PERMIT & INSPECTION FEES	300.00	-	100.00	200.00	33.33
120-4045 AVAILABILITY FEES	10,200.00	-	3,882.21	6,317.79	38.06
120-4050 SALES OF RECLAIMED WATER	95,000.00	5,167.73	65,474.64	29,525.36	68.92
120-4111 COMM SEWER USE	18,400.00	1,677.02	15,093.18	3,306.82	82.03
120-4112 GOV'T SEWER USE	600.00	50.18	451.62	148.38	75.27
120-4116 SEWER USE CHARGES	862,000.00	232.50	584,514.95	277,485.05	67.81
120-4210 LATE FEE	15,500.00	(18.09)	12,460.48	3,039.52	80.39
120-4300 MISC INCOME	100.00	(98.11)	515.65	(415.65)	515.65
120-4505 LEASE INCOME	4,200.00	1,937.30	1,831.71	2,368.29	43.61
120-4550 INTEREST INCOME	-	2.16	128.68	(128.68)	-
120-4580 TRANSFERS IN	-	3,485.00	11,449.48	(11,449.48)	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,006,300.00</b>	<b>12,435.69</b>	<b>695,902.60</b>	<b>310,397.40</b>	<b>69.15</b>

NON-DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-5-00-5024 WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE	4,815.00	4,814.50	14,443.50	(9,628.50)	299.97
120-5-00-5025 RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	5,027.00	556.41	3,810.83	1,216.17	75.81
120-5-00-5060 GASOLINE, OIL & FUEL	14,200.00	728.40	6,491.48	7,708.52	45.71
120-5-00-5061 VEHICLE MAINT	10,357.00	26.68	8,943.24	1,413.76	86.35
120-5-00-5062 TAXES & LIC	1,100.00	282.05	517.52	582.48	47.05
120-5-00-5074 INSURANCE	16,285.00	-	16.50	16,268.50	0.10
120-5-00-5075 BANK FEES	7,000.00	626.52	6,577.64	422.36	93.97
120-5-00-5080 MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTIONS	6,000.00	-	3,779.63	2,220.37	62.99
120-5-00-5092 POSTAGE & SHIPPING	1,500.00	-	861.92	638.08	57.46
120-5-00-5110 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	36,210.00	3,140.12	44,569.24	(8,359.24)	123.09
120-5-00-5121 LEGAL SERVICES	12,500.00	712.50	5,020.98	7,479.02	40.17
120-5-00-5122 ENGINEERING SERVICES	15,000.00	6,880.75	37,164.39	(22,164.39)	247.76
120-5-00-5123 OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	27,750.00	3,131.29	51,884.89	(24,134.89)	186.97
120-5-00-5130 PRINTING & PUBLICATION	500.00	75.81	466.27	33.73	93.25
120-5-00-5135 NEWSLETTER	1,000.00	762.92	762.92	237.08	76.29
120-5-00-5145 EQUIPMENT RENTAL	-	-	827.86	(827.86)	-
120-5-00-5148 OPERATING SUPPLIES	12,000.00	1,214.98	9,335.17	2,664.83	77.79
120-5-00-5150 REPAIR & REPLACE	50,452.00	8,156.97	37,814.21	12,637.79	74.95
120-5-00-5155 MAINT BLDG & GROUNDS	5,300.00	2,517.50	6,918.80	(1,618.80)	130.54
120-5-00-5156 CUSTODIAL SERVICES	9,450.00	787.50	7,593.75	1,856.25	80.36
120-5-00-5157 SECURITY	2,000.00	141.00	405.00	1,595.00	20.25
120-5-00-5160 SLUDGE DISPOSAL	23,000.00	-	11,423.45	11,576.55	49.67
120-5-00-5191 TELEPHONE	9,000.00	633.53	5,161.53	3,838.47	57.35
120-5-00-5192 ELECTRICITY	18,400.00	2,088.25	12,281.41	6,118.59	66.75
120-5-00-5193 OTHER UTILITIES	1,800.00	264.30	1,933.12	(133.12)	107.40
120-5-00-5195 ENV/MONITORING	25,000.00	2,124.00	25,573.16	(573.16)	102.29
120-5-00-5196 RISK MANAGEMENT	17,800.00	-	250.00	17,550.00	1.40
120-5-00-5198 ANNUAL OPERATING FEES	3,000.00	-	872.00	2,128.00	29.07
120-5-00-5310 EQUIPMENT - FIELD	1,000.00	-	961.13	38.87	96.11
120-5-00-5311 EQUIPMENT - OFFICE	2,800.00	-	1,063.28	1,736.72	37.97
120-5-00-5312 TOOLS - FIELD	1,100.00	-	412.09	687.91	37.46
120-5-00-5315 SAFETY EQUIPMENT	4,100.00	568.32	1,343.64	2,756.36	32.77
120-5-00-5510 SEWER OUTREACH	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00	-
120-5-00-5545 RECORDING FEES	160.00	-	218.00	(58.00)	136.25
120-5-00-5590 NON-OPERATING OTHER	-	-	33,675.00	(33,675.00)	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>350,606.00</b>	<b>40,234.30</b>	<b>343,373.55</b>	<b>7,232.45</b>	<b>98.02</b>

ADMINISTRATION EXPENDITURES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
120-5-10-5010 SALARIES & WAGES	205,456.00	20,041.82	178,832.87	26,623.13	87.04
120-5-10-5020 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	55,100.00	4,121.30	41,697.34	13,402.66	75.68
120-5-10-5021 RETIREMENT BENEFITS	41,013.00	3,205.25	28,743.30	12,269.70	69.72
120-5-10-5063 CERTIFICATIONS	20.00	-	-	20.00	-
120-5-10-5090 OFFICE SUPPLIES	6,200.00	313.78	4,488.82	1,711.18	72.40
120-5-10-5170 TRAVEL MILEAGE	350.00	260.00	1,314.77	(964.77)	375.65
120-5-10-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	3,900.00	613.35	4,611.01	(711.01)	118.23
120-5-10-5179 ADM MISC EXPENSES	500.00	32.27	211.14	288.86	42.23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>312,539.00</b>	<b>28,587.77</b>	<b>259,899.25</b>	<b>52,639.75</b>	<b>83.11</b>

<b>FIELD EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET BALANCE</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
120-5-30-5010 SALARIES & WAGES	213,757.00	11,883.22	122,291.56	91,465.44	57.21
120-5-30-5020 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	44,068.00	4,323.07	39,954.52	4,113.48	90.67
120-5-30-5021 RETIREMENT BENEFITS	36,249.00	2,025.66	19,739.52	16,509.48	54.04
120-5-30-5022 CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	2,000.00	-	1,474.28	525.72	73.71
120-5-30-5063 CERTIFICATIONS	780.00	-	170.00	610.00	21.79
120-5-30-5090 OFFICE SUPPLIES	400.00	91.71	961.20	(561.20)	240.30
120-5-30-5170 TRAVEL MILEAGE	600.00	-	60.34	539.66	10.06
120-5-30-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	2,100.00	-	3,503.66	(1,403.66)	166.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>299,954.00</b>	<b>18,323.66</b>	<b>188,155.08</b>	<b>111,798.92</b>	<b>62.68</b>

<b>DIRECTORS EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET BALANCE</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
120-5-40-5010 DIRECTORS COMPENSATION	1,170.00	96.88	871.92	298.08	74.52
120-5-40-5020 DIRECTOR BENEFITS	230.00	1.54	9.24	220.76	4.02
120-5-40-5030 DIRECTOR HEALTH BENEFITS	40,851.00	3,020.22	26,232.22	14,618.78	64.21
120-5-40-5170 TRAVEL MILEAGE	150.00	-	13.71	136.29	9.14
120-5-40-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	600.00	-	-	600.00	-
120-5-40-5176 DIRECTOR TRAINING	200.00	-	114.42	85.58	57.21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43,201.00</b>	<b>3,118.64</b>	<b>27,241.51</b>	<b>15,959.49</b>	<b>63.06</b>



**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**MARCH 2015**

**Financial Report**

REVENUE & EXPENSE WATER REPORT

3/1/2015-3/31/2015

<b>130-WATER ENTERPRISE FUND FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET BALANCE</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
<b>ALL REVENUE</b>	1,134,100.00	2,958.95	732,838.90	401,261.10	<b>64.62%</b>

<b>EXPENDITURE SUMMARY</b>					
NON-DEPARTMENTAL	641,637.00	68,372.41	424,467.40	217,169.60	66.16
ADMINISTRATION	335,979.00	29,287.66	260,674.34	75,304.66	77.63
FIELD	302,954.00	21,974.31	201,147.10	101,806.90	66.40
DIRECTORS	46,201.00	4,060.50	28,602.50	17,598.50	61.91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,326,771.00</b>	<b>123,694.88</b>	<b>914,891.34</b>	<b>411,879.66</b>	<b>68.96%</b>

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>CURRENT PERIOD</b>	<b>YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET BALANCE</b>	<b>% OF BUDGET</b>
130-4035 RECONNECT FEE	10,000.00	280.00	9,360.00	640.00	93.60
130-4039 WATER METER INST	300.00	-	200.00	100.00	66.67
130-4040 RECORDING FEE	100.00	10.00	100.00	-	100.00
130-4045 AVAILABILITY FEES	40,000.00	-	15,941.79	24,058.21	39.85
130-4110 COMM WATER USE	14,000.00	1,151.03	10,359.27	3,640.73	73.99
130-4112 GOV'T WATER USE	800.00	74.26	668.34	131.66	83.54
130-4115 WATER USE	863,000.00	347.81	562,474.86	300,525.14	65.18
130-4117 WATER OVERAGE FEE	167,000.00	(359.42)	87,901.02	79,098.98	52.64
130-4118 WATER OVERAGE COMM	11,000.00	1,025.49	15,113.94	(4,113.94)	137.40
130-4210 LATE FEE	22,000.00	(35.62)	16,798.30	5,201.70	76.36
130-4215 RETURNED CHECK FEE	800.00	25.00	525.00	275.00	65.63
130-4300 MISC INCOME	100.00	(45.01)	813.68	(713.68)	813.68
130-4505 LEASE INCOME	4,200.00	484.62	4,306.81	(106.81)	102.54
130-4550 INTEREST INCOME	800.00	0.79	311.41	488.59	38.93
130-4580 TRANSFER IN	-	-	7,964.48	(7,964.48)	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,134,100.00</b>	<b>2,958.95</b>	<b>732,838.90</b>	<b>401,261.10</b>	<b>64.62%</b>

NON-DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-00-5024 WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE	4,815.00	4,814.50	14,443.50	(9,628.50)	299.97
130-5-00-5025 RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	5,027.00	556.41	4,118.53	908.47	81.93
130-5-00-5060 GASOLINE, OIL & FUEL	12,500.00	728.38	6,491.33	6,008.67	51.93
130-5-00-5061 VEHICLE MAINT	12,500.00	26.67	2,944.34	9,555.66	23.55
130-5-00-5062 TAXES & LIC	1,600.00	204.02	963.97	636.03	60.25
130-5-00-5074 INSURANCE	16,285.00	-	16.50	16,268.50	0.10
130-5-00-5075 BANK FEES	7,000.00	626.54	6,571.52	428.48	93.88
130-5-00-5080 MEMBERSHIP & SUBSCRIPTION	17,200.00	-	14,752.36	2,447.64	85.77
130-5-00-5092 POSTAGE & SHIPPING	1,500.00	-	861.91	638.09	57.46
130-5-00-5110 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	49,650.00	270.12	45,968.28	3,681.72	92.58
130-5-00-5121 LEGAL SERVICES	12,500.00	712.50	4,859.98	7,640.02	38.88
130-5-00-5122 ENGINEERING SERVICES	15,000.00	790.00	18,132.79	(3,132.79)	120.89
130-5-00-5123 OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVIC	144,750.00	26,589.68	93,380.00	51,370.00	64.51
130-5-00-5124 WATER RIGHTS	10,000.00	487.50	4,450.71	5,549.29	44.51
130-5-00-5130 PRINTING & PUBLICATION	500.00	75.81	908.48	(408.48)	181.70
130-5-00-5135 NEWSLETTER	1,000.00	762.92	762.92	237.08	76.29
130-5-00-5148 OPERATING SUPPLIES	10,000.00	80.70	491.89	9,508.11	4.92
130-5-00-5150 REPAIR & REPLACE	52,000.00	20,827.59	47,668.88	4,331.12	91.67
130-5-00-5155 MAINT BLDG & GROUNDS	5,300.00	167.50	6,141.78	(841.78)	115.88
130-5-00-5156 CUSTODIAL SERVICES	9,450.00	787.50	8,156.25	1,293.75	86.31
130-5-00-5157 SECURITY	2,000.00	141.00	405.00	1,595.00	20.25
130-5-00-5191 TELEPHONE	9,000.00	633.53	5,161.50	3,838.50	57.35
130-5-00-5192 ELECTRICITY	165,000.00	6,067.84	100,369.03	64,630.97	60.83
130-5-00-5193 OTHER UTILITIES	1,800.00	264.31	1,933.11	(133.11)	107.40
130-5-00-5195 ENV/MONITORING	25,000.00	926.00	6,957.81	18,042.19	27.83
130-5-00-5196 RISK MANAGEMENT	-	-	250.00	(250.00)	-
130-5-00-5198 ANNUAL OPERATING FEES	27,000.00	-	17,164.96	9,835.04	63.57
130-5-00-5310 EQUIPMENT - FIELD	1,000.00	-	961.13	38.87	96.11
130-5-00-5311 EQUIPMENT - OFFICE	2,200.00	-	1,063.28	1,136.72	48.33
130-5-00-5312 TOOLS - FIELD	800.00	863.07	1,269.15	(469.15)	158.64
130-5-00-5315 SAFETY EQUIPMENT	4,100.00	568.32	1,252.30	2,847.70	30.54
130-5-00-5505 WATER CONSERVATION	15,000.00	100.00	5,122.09	9,877.91	34.15
130-5-00-5545 RECORDING FEES	160.00	-	218.00	(58.00)	136.25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>641,637.00</b>	<b>68,072.41</b>	<b>424,213.28</b>	<b>217,423.72</b>	<b>66.16</b>

ADMINISTRATION EXPENDITURES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-10-5010 SALARIES & WAGES	227,796.00	20,041.78	177,394.77	50,401.23	77.87
130-5-10-5020 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	55,100.00	4,121.30	41,665.80	13,434.20	75.62
130-5-10-5021 RETIREMENT BENEFITS	41,013.00	3,205.14	28,690.08	12,322.92	69.59
130-5-10-5063 CERTIFICATIONS	20.00	-	-	20.00	-
130-5-10-5090 OFFICE SUPPLIES	6,200.00	313.79	4,488.56	1,711.44	72.40
130-5-10-5170 TRAVEL MILEAGE	550.00	260.02	1,673.70	(1,123.70)	304.31
130-5-10-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	4,800.00	1,463.35	6,700.32	(1,900.32)	139.59
130-5-10-5179 ADM MISC EXPENSES	500.00	32.28	211.11	288.89	42.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>335,979.00</b>	<b>29,437.66</b>	<b>260,824.34</b>	<b>75,154.66</b>	<b>77.63%</b>

FIELD EXPENDITURES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-30-5010 SALARIES & WAGES	216,757.00	15,007.99	136,026.77	80,730.23	62.76
130-5-30-5020 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	44,068.00	4,323.06	39,624.56	4,443.44	89.92
130-5-30-5021 RETIREMENT BENEFITS	36,249.00	2,701.54	22,793.48	13,455.52	62.47
130-5-30-5022 CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	2,000.00	-	1,474.25	525.75	73.71
130-5-30-5063 CERTIFICATIONS	780.00	-	240.00	540.00	30.77
130-5-30-5090 OFFICE SUPPLIES	400.00	91.72	961.19	(561.19)	240.30
130-5-30-5170 TRAVEL MILEAGE	600.00	-	60.35	539.65	10.06
130-5-30-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	2,100.00	-	116.50	1,983.50	5.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>302,954.00</b>	<b>22,124.31</b>	<b>201,297.10</b>	<b>101,656.90</b>	<b>66.44%</b>

DIRECTORS EXPENDITURES	CURRENT BUDGET	CURRENT PERIOD	YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL	BUDGET BALANCE	% OF BUDGET
130-5-40-5010 DIRECTORS COMPENSATION	3,000.00	118.42	1,065.78	1,934.22	35.53
130-5-40-5020 DIRECTOR BENEFITS	230.00	1.86	11.16	218.84	4.85
130-5-40-5030 DIRECTOR HEALTH BENEFITS	42,021.00	3,020.22	26,203.94	15,817.06	62.36
130-5-40-5170 TRAVEL MILEAGE	150.00	-	287.19	(137.19)	191.46
130-5-40-5175 EDUCATION / SEMINARS	600.00	-	-	600.00	-
130-5-40-5176 DIRECTOR TRAINING	200.00	920.00	1,034.43	(834.43)	517.22
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46,201.00</b>	<b>4,060.50</b>	<b>28,602.50</b>	<b>17,598.50</b>	<b>61.91%</b>





**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**March 2015  
FINANCIAL REPORT**

**POOLED CASH  
AS OF MARCH 31, 2015**

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>108,683.33</b>
<b>Cash Receipts</b>	
Deposit	259,453.95
Transfers	0.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>259,453.95</b>
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>	
Accounts Payable	170,755.48
Payroll	45,647.90
Bank Fees	1,253.06
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>217,656.44</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>150,480.84</b>

**TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS**

AS OF MARCH 31, 2015

Fund		LAIF	Money Mkt	Total	G/L Bal
120	Sewer Operating Fund	66,945.81	30,430.07	97,375.88	97,375.88
130	Water Operating Fund	222,905.98	11,138.40	234,044.38	234,044.38
215	1995-2 Redemption	238,291.12	103,847.98	342,139.10	342,139.10
217	State Revolving Loan Sewer	158,721.29	522,958.11	681,679.40	681,679.40
218	CIEDB Redemption	11,454.01	(161,186.51)	(149,732.50)	(149,732.50)
219	USDARUS Solar Loan (Sewer)	815.18	57,888.31	58,703.49	58,703.49
313	Wastewater Cap Fac Reserved	431,878.98	33,524.67	465,403.65	465,403.65
314	Wastewater Cap Fac Unrestricted	53,686.85	118,455.96	172,142.81	172,142.81
320	Water Capital Fund	-	-	-	-
350	CIEDB Loan Reserve	170,324.37	-	170,324.37	170,324.37
711	Bond Administration	27,014.85	14,407.71	41,422.56	41,422.56
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,382,038.44</b>	<b>766,731.24</b>	<b>2,148,769.68</b>	<b>2,148,769.68</b>



**HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**MARCH 2015  
FINANCIAL REPORT**

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURES  
2014-2015 BUDGET**

<b>Sewer</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Yr to Date Actual</b>
Video Inspections of Sewer Laterals	35,000	-
Repair Sewer Lateral Leaks	35,000	-
Prepare Sewer Capital Improvement Plan	20,000	10,386.51
Install Security Fencing at Lift Station 1 & 4	10,000	-
Field Laptop (non-budget)	(1,522)	1,522.23
SCADA Computer (non-budget)	(6,442)	6,442.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,478</b>	<b>18,350.99</b>

<b>Water</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Yr to Date Actuals</b>
Field Laptop (non-budget)	(1,522)	1,522.23
SCADA Computer (non-budget)	(6,442)	6,442.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>(7,964)</b>	<b>7,964.48</b>

**ACTION OF  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**DATE:** April 21, 2015

**AGENDA ITEM:** STAFF PRESENTATION: Proposed water and sewer rates

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Hear staff presentation on proposed water and sewer rates

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

**BACKGROUND:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

---

APPROVED  
AS RECOMMENDED

OTHER  
(SEE BELOW)

---

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

---

I, Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE) by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent

---

Secretary to the Board

# Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

"The mission of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District is to provide, maintain and protect our community's water"



## Proposition 218 Notification NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SEWER AND WATER RATES

**HEARING DATE:** April 21, 2015

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Hidden Valley Lake CSD  
Administration Office  
19400 Hartmann Road  
Hidden Valley Lake, CA

The Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District (District) is proposing to establish new sewer and water rate structures to more equitably distribute the cost of providing sewer and water services among the various residential and commercial user classes, and to increase sewer and water rate charges to finance the maintenance and repair of aging sewer and water infrastructure, upgrade existing facilities to comply with new unfunded state and federal mandates, and restore reserve funds that have been drawn down and in some cases depleted during the recent economic recession. If adopted, the proposed rate changes will become effective on or after July 1, 2015.

**Why are you receiving this notice?** You are receiving this notice because you are either a District sewer and/or water customer or you own property that is receiving District sewer and/or water service. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider all written protests against the proposed rate changes. As the owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed rate changes, you may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes.



**What do sewer and water rates fund?** The District provides sewer and water utility services to residential and commercial customers. The operation and maintenance of these two utilities are financially independent of each other. All revenue generated from customer sewer and water bills is used to pay for the ongoing operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the existing sewer and water systems. The cost of system expansions, to serve new development, is recovered through connection or demand fees imposed on the developer requesting District service. By State law, the District may not collect more revenue than is necessary to recover the costs of providing services.

### Billing Changes

**The District is switching from a bimonthly to monthly sewer and water billing cycle.** The District is proposing to switch from the current bimonthly billing cycle (one bill every two months) to a monthly residential sewer and water billing cycle. Shortening the billing cycle will provide more timely information for the customer, with regard to water usage and the detection of costly water leaks, and enhance the District's ability to comply with state mandated water conservation measures.

An informational Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 7, 2015 in the Coyote Valley Elementary School Multipurpose Room at 18950 Coyote Valley Road, Hidden Valley Lake, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend and learn more about proposed sewer and water rates.

## New Sewer and Water Rates

**Capital projects a major reason for raising water and sewer rates.** Portions of the District’s wastewater collection system are over 50 years old. Many sewer lines are partially blocked with tree roots and/or have cracks and holes that allow excessive amounts of groundwater and storm water runoff to seep into the collection system, occasionally at rates that exceed the maximum design capacity of the District’s sewer collection system and wastewater treatment plant. The District has been able to avoid sewage spills and the discharge of partially or even untreated sewage, but at considerable cost. If not corrected, the leaky collection system will result in sewage spills and expensive regulatory fines.

The District’s water distribution system is also aging, as demonstrated by the number of “mainline” breaks experienced in recent years. Furthermore, there are long-standing deficiencies within the water distribution system that need correction. More recently, the State of California passed the nation’s first drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium. The District’s raw water supply has naturally occurring hexavalent chromium at concentrations that occasionally exceed the new 10 parts per billion drinking water standard and therefore, the District must construct new facilities within the next five years to remain in compliance. In addition to water treatment improvements, the District has initiated a multi-year project to secure water rights to the District’s existing water supply – an expensive and time consuming project that involves a number of technical studies.

To minimize the fiscal impact to ratepayers, the District anticipates completing most capital improvements by securing low interest loans that would be paid off over time. In order to reduce the cost of borrowing money, the District must demonstrate it possesses good credit. The District’s credit rating is determined in part by the ability to maintain fiscal reserves. The District’s reserve funds have been drawn down and in some cases were depleted during the recent economic recession. In conjunction with the anticipated capital improvements, the District is seeking to restore reserve funds.



**Proposed sewer rate charges:** Residential sewer customers currently pay a bimonthly flat rate of \$100.36, regardless of the volume of wastewater generated. The proposed residential sewer rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All residential customers pay the same fixed charge, regardless of household size, while the volumetric charge is determined by the average monthly water usage for the months of December through April. As a general rule, a household’s average monthly water use for the months of December through April provides a reasonable estimate of the wastewater produced by the household each month of the year. Households generating less wastewater will pay less for sewer service than households producing larger volumes of wastewater. Sewer charges will be adjusted on July 1 of each year. The volumetric charge will be based on actual average monthly water usage for the preceding months of December through April.

Commercial and government customers currently pay a monthly flat rate of \$50.18 per “household equivalent unit” (HEU). The proposed sewer rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All commercial and government customers pay the same fixed charge per HEU, while the volumetric charge is determined by actual monthly water use.

The proposed sewer rate charges for the next five years are presented in detail in the chart below. In the first year, the average monthly residential sewer bill is estimated to be \$50.95. Annually, the average cost of sewer service for a single family residential customer will increase by approximately \$9.24 in the first year, from \$602.16 to \$611.40.

### PROPOSED MONTHLY SEWER RATES

	Current Monthly Rate	FY 2015/2016	FY 2016/2017	FY 2017/2018	FY 2018/2019	FY 2019/2020
<b>“Fixed” Charge by Meter Size</b>						
Residential*	\$50.18	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
Commercial & Government (per HEU)	\$50.18	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
<b>“Volumetric” Charge per 100 cubic feet of monthly water use</b>						
Residential*	-	\$2.07	\$2.23	\$2.41	\$2.60	\$2.76
Commercial & Government	-	\$2.25	\$2.43	\$2.62	\$2.83	\$3.00

\*Includes single and multifamily; multifamily assessed per HEU

**Proposed water rate changes:** The current residential water rate schedule consists of a bimonthly base rate of \$74.26 for the first 3,000 cubic feet of water used, and a flat rate of \$2.48 for every 100 cubic feet of water used in excess of 3,000 cubic feet. The proposed water rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All residential customers pay the same fixed charge, regardless of household size, while the volumetric charge is determined by the amount of water used each month.

Increasing water use will result in a higher volumetric charge, not only because more water is used, but also because the unit cost (cost per 100 cubic feet of water) increases with increasing usage. Under the proposed water rate structure, the first 700 cubic feet of water used each month will cost the least (\$1.50 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year). Additional water usage in excess of 700 cubic feet but less than 1,100 cubic feet will be charged at a higher unit cost rate (\$1.88 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year), usage in excess of 1,100 but less than 2,400 cubic feet will be charged at a still higher unit cost rate (\$2.35 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year), while usage in excess of 2,400 cubic feet per month will be charged the highest unit cost rate (\$2.93 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year). This approach to water billing is commonly referred to as a “tiered water rate structure” because the unit cost of water increases in a series of steps or “tiers”. The District is proposing a tiered water rate structure to incentivize water conservation and enhance the District’s ability to comply with state mandated water conservation measures.



The current commercial water rate schedule consists of a monthly base rate of \$37.13 for the first 1,500 cubic feet of water used, and a flat rate of \$2.48 for every 100 cubic feet of water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet. The proposed water rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All commercial customers pay the same fixed charge, while the volumetric charge is determined by the amount of water used each month.

The proposed water rate charges over the next five years are presented in detail in the chart below. The total amount of your water bill will depend on the amount of water used. In the first year, the average monthly water bill for a single family residential customer is estimated to be \$41.59. Water bills will be noticeably higher in the summer months, when water usage is highest. Annually, the average cost of water service for a single family residential customer will increase by approximately \$53.52 in the first year, from \$445.56 to \$499.08.

**PROPOSED MONTHLY WATER RATES**

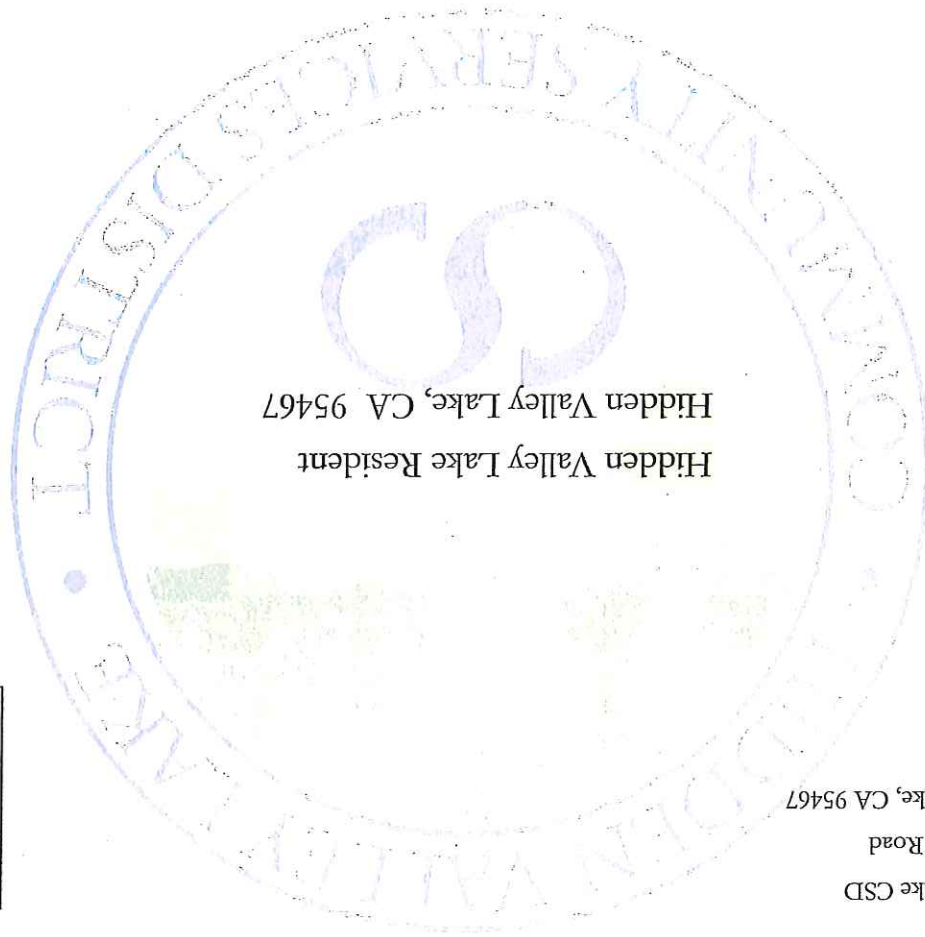
<b>"Fixed" Charge by Meter Size</b>	<b>Current Monthly Rate</b>	<b>FY 2015/2016</b>	<b>FY 2016/2017</b>	<b>FY 2017/2018</b>	<b>FY 2018/2019</b>	<b>FY 2019/2020</b>
5/8-inch (*)	\$37.13	\$27.54	\$30.57	\$33.93	\$36.65	\$39.58
3/4-inch	\$37.13	\$40.37	\$44.81	\$49.74	\$53.72	\$58.02
1-inch	\$37.13	\$66.04	\$73.30	\$81.37	\$87.88	\$94.91
1 1/2-inch	\$37.13	\$130.20	\$144.52	\$160.42	\$173.25	\$187.11
2-inch	\$37.13	\$207.19	\$229.99	\$255.28	\$275.71	\$297.76
<b>"Volumetric" Charge per 100 cubic feet of water used</b>						
Residential Accounts:	\$2.48 (**)					
Tier 1: (0 - 7 hcf)		\$1.50	\$1.67	\$1.85	\$2.00	\$2.16
Tier 2: (7.01 - 11 hcf)		\$1.88	\$2.08	\$2.31	\$2.50	\$2.70
Tier 3: (11.01 - 24 hcf)		\$2.35	\$2.60	\$2.89	\$3.12	\$3.37
Tier 4: (above 24 hcf)		\$2.93	\$3.26	\$3.61	\$3.90	\$4.21
Commercial Accounts	\$2.48 (**)	\$1.86	\$2.07	\$2.30	\$2.48	\$2.68

Notes:

\*Most common single family residential meter size

\*\*\$2.48 per every 100 cubic feet used in excess of 1,500 cf/month

Sign up for e-statements and automated notifications at [www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com](http://www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com) or contact our District Office at (707) 987-9201.



Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467

Hidden Valley Lake Resident

Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467

19400 Hartmann Road

Hidden Valley Lake CSD

PRSR T STD  
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PAID  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE, CA  
Permit NO. 12

## How to Protest the Proposed Changes

As the owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed rate changes, you may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes. Provided, however, if the identified parcel has more than one owner and/or customer of record, only one written protest will be counted.

Each protest must (1) be in writing; (2) state the specific rate changes for which the protest is being submitted; (3) provide the location of the identified parcel (by assessor's parcel number or street address); and (4) include the original signature of the owner or customer of record submitting the protest. Protests submitted by e-mail, facsimile or other electronic means will not be accepted. Written protests may be submitted by mail to **General Manager Roland Sanford, Hidden Valley Lake CSD, 19400 Hartmann Road, Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467**, or in person at the public hearing, so long as they are received prior to the conclusion of the public hearing. Please identify on the front of the envelope for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person to the General Manager, that the enclosed letter is in regards to the April 21, 2015 Public Hearing on the proposed sewer and water rate changes.

If you would like more information about the proposed water/wastewater rate increases visit [www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com](http://www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com) and click on "Rate Study", or call 707-987-9201.



Mark your calendar! Monthly bill payments will be ***due on the 20th*** of each month unless the 20th falls on a weekend, in which case payments will be due the following Monday.

**ACTION OF  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**DATE:** April 21, 2015

**AGENDA ITEM:** Public Hearing pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.6 to consider approval of Ordinance # 56 adopting amended water user fees

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Conduct public hearing in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.6 to provide the owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed water rate changes the opportunity to speak to, in support or in protest of, the proposed water rate changes.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

**BACKGROUND:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

---

APPROVED  
AS RECOMMENDED

OTHER  
(SEE BELOW)

---

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

---

I, Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE) by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent

---

Secretary to the Board



# Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

*"The mission of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District is to provide, maintain and protect our community's water"*



## Proposition 218 Notification NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SEWER AND WATER RATES

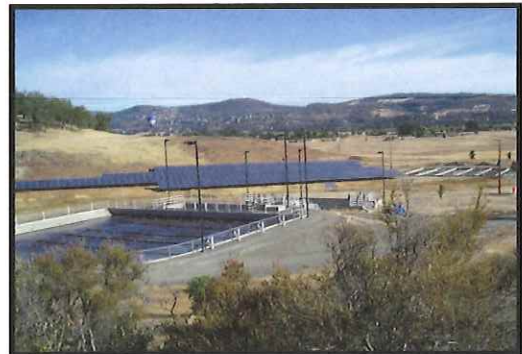
**HEARING DATE:** April 21, 2015

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Hidden Valley Lake CSD  
Administration Office  
19400 Hartmann Road  
Hidden Valley Lake, CA

The Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District (District) is proposing to establish new sewer and water rate structures to more equitably distribute the cost of providing sewer and water services among the various residential and commercial user classes, and to increase sewer and water rate charges to finance the maintenance and repair of aging sewer and water infrastructure, upgrade existing facilities to comply with new unfunded state and federal mandates, and restore reserve funds that have been drawn down and in some cases depleted during the recent economic recession. If adopted, the proposed rate changes will become effective on or after July 1, 2015.

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***What do sewer and water rates fund?*** The District provides sewer and water utility services to residential and commercial customers. The operation and maintenance of these two utilities are financially independent of each other. All revenue generated from customer sewer and water bills is used to pay for the ongoing operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the existing sewer and water systems. The cost of system expansions, to serve new development, is recovered through connection or demand fees imposed on the developer requesting District service. By State law, the District may not collect more revenue than is necessary to recover the costs of providing services.

### Billing Changes

***The District is switching from a bimonthly to monthly sewer and water billing cycle.*** The District is proposing to switch from the current bimonthly billing cycle (one bill every two months) to a monthly residential sewer and water billing cycle. Shortening the billing cycle will provide more timely information for the customer, with regard to water usage and the detection of costly water leaks, and enhance the District's ability to comply with state mandated water conservation measures.

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## New Sewer and Water Rates

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To minimize the fiscal impact to ratepayers, the District anticipates completing most capital improvements by securing low interest loans that would be paid off over time. In order to reduce the cost of borrowing money, the District must demonstrate it possesses good credit. The District’s credit rating is determined in part by the ability to maintain fiscal reserves. The District’s reserve funds have been drawn down and in some cases were depleted during the recent economic recession. In conjunction with the anticipated capital improvements, the District is seeking to restore reserve funds.



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Commercial and government customers currently pay a monthly flat rate of \$50.18 per “household equivalent unit” (HEU). The proposed sewer rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All commercial and government customers pay the same fixed charge per HEU, while the volumetric charge is determined by actual monthly water use.

The proposed sewer rate charges for the next five years are presented in detail in the chart below. In the first year, the average monthly residential sewer bill is estimated to be \$50.95. Annually, the average cost of sewer service for a single family residential customer will increase by approximately \$9.24 in the first year, from \$602.16 to \$611.40.

### PROPOSED MONTHLY SEWER RATES

	Current Monthly Rate	FY 2015/2016	FY 2016/2017	FY 2017/2018	FY 2018/2019	FY 2019/2020
<b>“Fixed” Charge by Meter Size</b>						
Residential*	\$50.18	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
Commercial & Government (per HEU)	\$50.18	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
<b>“Volumetric” Charge per 100 cubic feet of monthly water use</b>						
Residential*	-	\$2.07	\$2.23	\$2.41	\$2.60	\$2.76
Commercial & Government	-	\$2.25	\$2.43	\$2.62	\$2.83	\$3.00

\*Includes single and multifamily; multifamily assessed per HEU

**Proposed water rate changes:** The current residential water rate schedule consists of a bimonthly base rate of \$74.26 for the first 3,000 cubic feet of water used, and a flat rate of \$2.48 for every 100 cubic feet of water used in excess of 3,000 cubic feet. The proposed water rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All residential customers pay the same fixed charge, regardless of household size, while the volumetric charge is determined by the amount of water used each month.

Increasing water use will result in a higher volumetric charge, not only because more water is used, but also because the unit cost (cost per 100 cubic feet of water) increases with increasing usage. Under the proposed water rate structure, the first 700 cubic feet of water used each month will cost the least (\$1.50 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year). Additional water usage in excess of 700 cubic feet but less than 1,100 cubic feet will be charged at a higher unit cost rate (\$1.88 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year), usage in excess of 1,100 but less than 2,400 cubic feet will be charged at a still higher unit cost rate (\$2.35 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year), while usage in excess of 2,400 cubic feet per month will be charged the highest unit cost rate (\$2.93 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year). This approach to water billing is commonly referred to as a “tiered water rate structure” because the unit cost of water increases in a series of steps or “tiers”. The District is proposing a tiered water rate structure to incentivize water conservation and enhance the District’s ability to comply with state mandated water conservation measures.



The current commercial water rate schedule consists of a monthly base rate of \$37.13 for the first 1,500 cubic feet of water used, and a flat rate of \$2.48 for every 100 cubic feet of water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet. The proposed water rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All commercial customers pay the same fixed charge, while the volumetric charge is determined by the amount of water used each month.

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**PROPOSED MONTHLY WATER RATES**

<b>"Fixed" Charge by Meter Size</b>	<b>Current Monthly Rate</b>	<b>FY 2015/2016</b>	<b>FY 2016/2017</b>	<b>FY 2017/2018</b>	<b>FY 2018/2019</b>	<b>FY 2019/2020</b>
5/8-inch (*)	\$37.13	\$27.54	\$30.57	\$33.93	\$36.65	\$39.58
3/4-inch	\$37.13	\$40.37	\$44.81	\$49.74	\$53.72	\$58.02
1-inch	\$37.13	\$66.04	\$73.30	\$81.37	\$87.88	\$94.91
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2-inch	\$37.13	\$207.19	\$229.99	\$255.28	\$275.71	\$297.76
<b>"Volumetric" Charge per 100 cubic feet of water used</b>						
Residential Accounts:	\$2.48 (**)					
Tier 1: (0 - 7 hcf)		\$1.50	\$1.67	\$1.85	\$2.00	\$2.16
Tier 2: (7.01 - 11 hcf)		\$1.88	\$2.08	\$2.31	\$2.50	\$2.70
Tier 3: (11.01 - 24 hcf)		\$2.35	\$2.60	\$2.89	\$3.12	\$3.37
Tier 4: (above 24 hcf)		\$2.93	\$3.26	\$3.61	\$3.90	\$4.21
Commercial Accounts	\$2.48 (**)	\$1.86	\$2.07	\$2.30	\$2.48	\$2.68

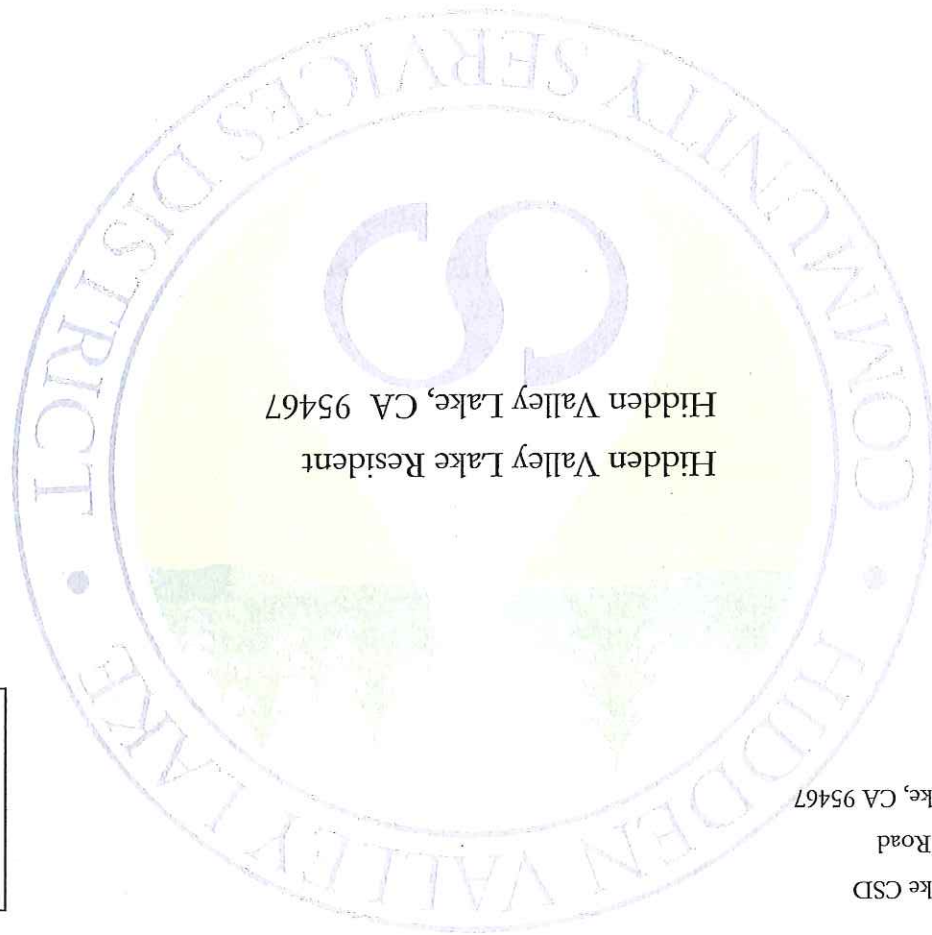
Notes:

\*Most common single family residential meter size

\*\*\$2.48 per every 100 cubic feet used in excess of 1,500 cf/month



**Sign up for e-statements and automated notifications at [www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com](http://www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com) or contact our District Office at (707) 987-9201.**



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PAID  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE, CA  
Permit NO. 12

Hidden Valley Lake CSD  
19400 Hartmann Road  
Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467

## How to Protest the Proposed Changes

As the owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed rate changes, you may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes. Provided, however, if the identified parcel has more than one owner and/or customer of record, only one written protest will be counted.

Each protest must (1) be in writing; (2) state the specific rate changes for which the protest is being submitted; (3) provide the location of the identified parcel (by assessor's parcel number or street address); and (4) include the original signature of the owner or customer of record submitting the protest. Protests submitted by e-mail, facsimile or other electronic means will *not* be accepted. Written protests may be submitted by mail to **General Manager Roland Sanford, Hidden Valley Lake CSD, 19400 Hartmann Road, Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467**, or in person at the public hearing, so long as they are received prior to the conclusion of the public hearing. Please identify on the front of the envelope for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person to the General Manager, that the enclosed letter is in regards to the April 21, 2015 Public Hearing on the proposed sewer and water rate changes.

If you would like more information about the proposed water/wastewater rate increases visit [www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com](http://www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com) and click on "Rate Study", or call 707-987-9201.



Mark your calendar! Monthly bill payments will be ***due on the 20th*** of each month unless the 20th falls on a weekend, in which case payments will be due the following Monday.

**ACTION OF  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**DATE:** April 21, 2015

**AGENDA ITEM:** Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of Ordinance # 56 adopting amended water user fees

---

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Adopt Ordinance # 56 of the Board of Directors of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

**BACKGROUND:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

---

APPROVED  
AS RECOMMENDED

OTHER  
(SEE BELOW)

---

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

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I, Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE) by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Board

ORDINANCE NO. 56

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AMENDED WATER USE FEES FOR  
EXTENDED OPERATIONS OF WATER SERVICES

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District as follows:

Section 1: The owner of property receiving water service from the District shall pay a monthly user fee consisting of a "fixed" and "volumetric" charge as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto.

Section 2: The District's bill for water service shall be due and payable when issued to the property owner, and such other person as designed by the property owner as set forth below. A bill for water service is delinquent if not paid within 30 days of the date of bill. For any delinquent bill, the property owner shall be liable for a penalty of 10% for nonpayment of the monies due and an additional penalty of ½% per subsequent month for nonpayment of the charges and basic penalty.

Section 3: The District may, if so requested by the property owner in writing, send bills for water service to the person residing at the property receiving District service, if such person is other than the property owner. However, the District sending the bills to such person shall not relieve or otherwise limit in any way the obligation of the property owner to pay for such service in a timely manner and the availability and use of District procedures to collect any monies due from the property owner.

Section 4: The establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, and other charges by this ordinance are for the purpose of meeting operating expenses, including employees' wage rates and fringe benefits; purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment or materials; meeting financial reserve needs and requirements; obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas.

Section 5: If any section or provision of this ordinance shall be found unenforceable, unlawful, or invalid, then the other sections and provisions of this ordinance shall be considered valid and enforceable, notwithstanding the partial invalidity of such portion(s) of the ordinance.

Section 6: Pursuant to California Government Code section 54954.6, the District has provided notice of the required public information meeting and of the public hearing to adopt this ordinance. Within ten days of adoption, this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the Hidden Valley Lake areas. The ordinance shall take effect no earlier than the 30<sup>th</sup> day of its adoption. The charges imposed by this ordinance shall take effect July 1, 2015.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON April 21, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Jim Freeman, President of the Board of Directors  
Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

ATTEST:

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Roland Sanford  
Secretary to the Board of Directors

# EXHIBIT A

## HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

### WATER RATES BY FISCAL YEAR

	FY 2015/2016	FY 2016/2017	FY 2017/2018	FY 2018/2019	FY 2019/2020
<b><i>“Fixed” Charge by Meter Size</i></b>					
5/8-inch *	\$27.54	\$30.57	\$33.93	\$36.65	\$39.58
3/4-inch	\$40.37	\$44.81	\$49.74	\$53.72	\$58.02
1-inch	\$66.04	\$73.30	\$81.37	\$87.88	\$94.91
1 1/2-inch	\$130.20	\$144.52	\$160.42	\$173.25	\$187.11
2-inch	\$207.19	\$229.99	\$255.28	\$275.71	\$297.76
<b><i>“Volumetric” Charge per 100 cubic feet of water used</i></b>					
Residential Accounts					
Tier 1: (0 - 7 hcf)	\$1.50	\$1.67	\$1.85	\$2.00	\$2.16
Tier 2: (7.01 - 11 hcf)	\$1.88	\$2.08	\$2.31	\$2.50	\$2.70
Tier 3: (11.01 - 24 hcf)	\$2.35	\$2.60	\$2.89	\$3.12	\$3.37
Tier 4: (above 24 hcf)	\$2.93	\$3.26	\$3.61	\$3.90	\$4.21
Commercial Accounts					
	\$1.86	\$2.07	\$2.30	\$2.48	\$2.68

Notes: \*Most common single family residential meter size



**ACTION OF  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**DATE:** April 21, 2015

**AGENDA ITEM:** Public Hearing pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.6 to consider approval of Ordinance # 57 adopting amended sewer user fees

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Conduct public hearing in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.6 to provide the owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed sewer rate changes the opportunity to speak to, in support or in protest of, the proposed water rate changes.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

**BACKGROUND:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

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<input type="checkbox"/>	APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED	<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (SEE BELOW)
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Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

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I, Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE) by the following vote:

- Ayes:
- Noes:
- Abstain:
- Absent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Board

# Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

"The mission of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District is to provide, maintain and protect our community's water"



## Proposition 218 Notification NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SEWER AND WATER RATES

**HEARING DATE:** April 21, 2015

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Hidden Valley Lake CSD  
Administration Office  
19400 Hartmann Road  
Hidden Valley Lake, CA

The Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District (District) is proposing to establish new sewer and water rate structures to more equitably distribute the cost of providing sewer and water services among the various residential and commercial user classes, and to increase sewer and water rate charges to finance the maintenance and repair of aging sewer and water infrastructure, upgrade existing facilities to comply with new unfunded state and federal mandates, and restore reserve funds that have been drawn down and in some cases depleted during the recent economic recession. If adopted, the proposed rate changes will become effective on or after July 1, 2015.

**Why are you receiving this notice?** You are receiving this notice because you are either a District sewer and/or water customer or you own property that is receiving District sewer and/or water service. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider all written protests against the proposed rate changes. As the owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed rate changes, you may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes.

**What do sewer and water rates fund?** The District provides sewer and water utility services to residential and commercial customers. The operation and maintenance of these two utilities are financially independent of each other. All revenue generated from customer sewer and water bills is used to pay for the ongoing operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the existing sewer and water systems. The cost of system expansions, to serve new development, is recovered through connection or demand fees imposed on the developer requesting District service. By State law, the District may not collect more revenue than is necessary to recover the costs of providing services.



### Billing Changes

**The District is switching from a bimonthly to monthly sewer and water billing cycle.** The District is proposing to switch from the current bimonthly billing cycle (one bill every two months) to a monthly residential sewer and water billing cycle. Shortening the billing cycle will provide more timely information for the customer, with regard to water usage and the detection of costly water leaks, and enhance the District's ability to comply with state mandated water conservation measures.

**An informational Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 7, 2015 in the Coyote Valley Elementary School Multipurpose Room at 18950 Coyote Valley Road, Hidden Valley Lake, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All residents are encouraged to attend and learn more about proposed sewer and water rates.**

## New Sewer and Water Rates

**Capital projects a major reason for raising water and sewer rates.** Portions of the District’s wastewater collection system are over 50 years old. Many sewer lines are partially blocked with tree roots and/or have cracks and holes that allow excessive amounts of groundwater and storm water runoff to seep into the collection system, occasionally at rates that exceed the maximum design capacity of the District’s sewer collection system and wastewater treatment plant. The District has been able to avoid sewage spills and the discharge of partially or even untreated sewage, but at considerable cost. If not corrected, the leaky collection system will result in sewage spills and expensive regulatory fines.

The District’s water distribution system is also aging, as demonstrated by the number of “mainline” breaks experienced in recent years. Furthermore, there are long-standing deficiencies within the water distribution system that need correction. More recently, the State of California passed the nation’s first drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium. The District’s raw water supply has naturally occurring hexavalent chromium at concentrations that occasionally exceed the new 10 parts per billion drinking water standard and therefore, the District must construct new facilities within the next five years to remain in compliance. In addition to water treatment improvements, the District has initiated a multi-year project to secure water rights to the District’s existing water supply – an expensive and time consuming project that involves a number of technical studies.

To minimize the fiscal impact to ratepayers, the District anticipates completing most capital improvements by securing low interest loans that would be paid off over time. In order to reduce the cost of borrowing money, the District must demonstrate it possesses good credit. The District’s credit rating is determined in part by the ability to maintain fiscal reserves. The District’s reserve funds have been drawn down and in some cases were depleted during the recent economic recession. In conjunction with the anticipated capital improvements, the District is seeking to restore reserve funds.



**Proposed sewer rate charges:** Residential sewer customers currently pay a bimonthly flat rate of \$100.36, regardless of the volume of wastewater generated. The proposed residential sewer rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All residential customers pay the same fixed charge, regardless of household size, while the volumetric charge is determined by the average monthly water usage for the months of December through April. As a general rule, a household’s average monthly water use for the months of December through April provides a reasonable estimate of the wastewater produced by the household each month of the year. Households generating less wastewater will pay less for sewer service than households producing larger volumes of wastewater. Sewer charges will be adjusted on July 1 of each year. The volumetric charge will be based on actual average monthly water usage for the preceding months of December through April.

Commercial and government customers currently pay a monthly flat rate of \$50.18 per “household equivalent unit” (HEU). The proposed sewer rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All commercial and government customers pay the same fixed charge per HEU, while the volumetric charge is determined by actual monthly water use.

The proposed sewer rate charges for the next five years are presented in detail in the chart below. In the first year, the average monthly residential sewer bill is estimated to be \$50.95. Annually, the average cost of sewer service for a single family residential customer will increase by approximately \$9.24 in the first year, from \$602.16 to \$611.40.

### PROPOSED MONTHLY SEWER RATES

	Current Monthly Rate	FY 2015/2016	FY 2016/2017	FY 2017/2018	FY 2018/2019	FY 2019/2020
<b>“Fixed” Charge by Meter Size</b>						
Residential*	\$50.18	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
Commercial & Government (per HEU)	\$50.18	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
<b>“Volumetric” Charge per 100 cubic feet of monthly water use</b>						
Residential*	-	\$2.07	\$2.23	\$2.41	\$2.60	\$2.76
Commercial & Government	-	\$2.25	\$2.43	\$2.62	\$2.83	\$3.00

\*Includes single and multifamily; multifamily assessed per HEU

**Proposed water rate changes:** The current residential water rate schedule consists of a bimonthly base rate of \$74.26 for the first 3,000 cubic feet of water used, and a flat rate of \$2.48 for every 100 cubic feet of water used in excess of 3,000 cubic feet. The proposed water rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All residential customers pay the same fixed charge, regardless of household size, while the volumetric charge is determined by the amount of water used each month.

Increasing water use will result in a higher volumetric charge, not only because more water is used, but also because the unit cost (cost per 100 cubic feet of water) increases with increasing usage. Under the proposed water rate structure, the first 700 cubic feet of water used each month will cost the least (\$1.50 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year). Additional water usage in excess of 700 cubic feet but less than 1,100 cubic feet will be charged at a higher unit cost rate (\$1.88 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year), usage in excess of 1,100 but less than 2,400 cubic feet will be charged at a still higher unit cost rate (\$2.35 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year), while usage in excess of 2,400 cubic feet per month will be charged the highest unit cost rate (\$2.93 per 100 cubic feet, in the first year). This approach to water billing is commonly referred to as a “tiered water rate structure” because the unit cost of water increases in a series of steps or “tiers”. The District is proposing a tiered water rate structure to incentivize water conservation and enhance the District’s ability to comply with state mandated water conservation measures.



The current commercial water rate schedule consists of a monthly base rate of \$37.13 for the first 1,500 cubic feet of water used, and a flat rate of \$2.48 for every 100 cubic feet of water used in excess of 1,500 cubic feet. The proposed water rate consists of two components, a “fixed charge” and a “volumetric charge”. All commercial customers pay the same fixed charge, while the volumetric charge is determined by the amount of water used each month.

The proposed water rate charges over the next five years are presented in detail in the chart below. The total amount of your water bill will depend on the amount of water used. In the first year, the average monthly water bill for a single family residential customer is estimated to be \$41.59. Water bills will be noticeably higher in the summer months, when water usage is highest. Annually, the average cost of water service for a single family residential customer will increase by approximately \$53.52 in the first year, from \$445.56 to \$499.08.

**PROPOSED MONTHLY WATER RATES**

<i>"Fixed" Charge by Meter Size</i>	Current Monthly Rate	FY 2015/2016	FY 2016/2017	FY 2017/2018	FY 2018/2019	FY 2019/2020
5/8-inch (*)	\$37.13	\$27.54	\$30.57	\$33.93	\$36.65	\$39.58
3/4-inch	\$37.13	\$40.37	\$44.81	\$49.74	\$53.72	\$58.02
1-inch	\$37.13	\$66.04	\$73.30	\$81.37	\$87.88	\$94.91
1 1/2-inch	\$37.13	\$130.20	\$144.52	\$160.42	\$173.25	\$187.11
2-inch	\$37.13	\$207.19	\$229.99	\$255.28	\$275.71	\$297.76
<b><i>"Volumetric" Charge per 100 cubic feet of water used</i></b>						
Residential Accounts:	\$2.48 (**)					
Tier 1: (0 - 7 hcf)		\$1.50	\$1.67	\$1.85	\$2.00	\$2.16
Tier 2: (7.01 - 11 hcf)		\$1.88	\$2.08	\$2.31	\$2.50	\$2.70
Tier 3: (11.01 - 24 hcf)		\$2.35	\$2.60	\$2.89	\$3.12	\$3.37
Tier 4: (above 24 hcf)		\$2.93	\$3.26	\$3.61	\$3.90	\$4.21
Commercial Accounts	\$2.48 (**)	\$1.86	\$2.07	\$2.30	\$2.48	\$2.68

Notes:

\*Most common single family residential meter size

\*\*\$2.48 per every 100 cubic feet used in excess of 1,500 cf/month

**Sign up for e-statements and automated notifications at [www.hiddenvallaylakecsd.com](http://www.hiddenvallaylakecsd.com) or contact our District Office at (707) 987-9201.**



PRSRRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE, CA  
Permit NO. 12

Hidden Valley Lake CSD  
19400 Hartmann Road  
Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467

## How to Protest the Proposed Changes

As the owner or customer of record of a parcel subject to the imposition of the proposed rate changes, you may submit a written protest against the proposed rate changes. Provided, however, if the identified parcel has more than one owner and/or customer of record, only one written protest will be counted.

Each protest must (1) be in writing; (2) state the specific rate changes for which the protest is being submitted; (3) provide the location of the identified parcel (by assessor's parcel number or street address); and (4) include the original signature of the owner or customer of record submitting the protest. Protests submitted by e-mail, facsimile or other electronic means will *not* be accepted. Written protests may be submitted by mail to **General Manager Roland Sanford, Hidden Valley Lake CSD, 19400 Hartmann Road, Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467**, or in person at the public hearing, so long as they are received prior to the conclusion of the public hearing. Please identify on the front of the envelope for any protest, whether mailed or submitted in person to the General Manager, that the enclosed letter is in regards to the April 21, 2015 Public Hearing on the proposed sewer and water rate changes.

If you would like more information about the proposed water/wastewater rate increases visit [www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com](http://www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com) and click on "Rate Study", or call 707-987-9201.



Mark your calendar! Monthly bill payments will be **due on the 20th** of each month unless the 20th falls on a weekend, in which case payments will be due the following Monday.

**ACTION OF  
HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**DATE:** April 21, 2015

**AGENDA ITEM:** Discussion and Possible Action: Approval of Ordinance # 57 adopting amended sewer user fees

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Adopt Ordinance # 57 of the Board of Directors of the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

**BACKGROUND:**

See attached "Notice of Public Hearing on Proposed Sewer and Water Rates"

---

APPROVED  
AS RECOMMENDED

OTHER  
(SEE BELOW)

---

Modification to recommendation and/or other actions:

---

I, Roland Sanford, Secretary to the Board, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular board meeting thereof held on (DATE) by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Board

ORDINANCE NO. 57

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING SEWER USER FEES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The owner of property which is located within District boundaries and which is receiving sewer services from the District shall pay a monthly user fee consisting of a "fixed" and "volumetric" charge as set in Exhibit A, attached hereto.

Section 2: The District's bill for sewer service shall be due and payable when issued to the property owner, and such other person as designed by the property owner as set forth below. A bill for water service is delinquent if not paid within 30 days of the date of bill. For any delinquent bill, the property owner shall be liable for a penalty of 10% for nonpayment of the monies due and an additional penalty of ½% per subsequent month for nonpayment of the charges and basic penalty.

Section 3: This ordinance and the various sections thereof are hereby declared to be severable. To the extent the terms and provisions of this ordinance are in conflict or otherwise are inconsistent with the terms and provisions of any prior District ordinances, resolutions, rules, and other actions, the terms and provisions of this ordinance shall prevail with respect thereto.

Section 4: If any section or provision of this ordinance shall be found unenforceable, unlawful, or invalid, then the other sections and provisions of this ordinance shall be considered valid and enforceable, notwithstanding the partial invalidity of such portion(s) of the ordinance.

Section 5: The establishment, modification, structuring, restructuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, and other charges by this ordinance are for the purpose of meeting operating expenses, including employees' wage rates and fringe benefit; purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials; meeting financial reserve needs and requirements; and obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas.

Section 6: Pursuant to California Government Code section 54954.6, the District has provided notice of the required public information meeting and of the public hearing to adopt this ordinance. Within ten days of adoption, this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the Hidden Valley area. The ordinance shall take effect no earlier than the 30<sup>th</sup> day of its adoption. The charges imposed by this ordinance shall take effect July 1, 2015

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON April 21, 2015 by the following votes:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Board  
Roland Sanford

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Freeman, President of the Board of Directors  
Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District



# EXHIBIT A

## HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

### SEWER RATES BY FISCAL YEAR

	FY 2015/2016	FY 2016/2017	FY 2017/2018	FY 2018/2019	FY 2019/2020
<b><i>"Fixed" Charge by Meter Size</i></b>					
Residential*	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
Commercial & Government (per HEU)	\$38.92	\$42.03	\$45.39	\$49.02	\$51.96
<b><i>"Volumetric" Charge per 100 cubic feet of water used</i></b>					
Residential*	\$2.07	\$2.23	\$2.41	\$2.60	\$2.76
Commercial & Government	\$2.25	\$2.43	\$2.62	\$2.83	\$3.00

\*Includes single and multifamily, multifamily assessed per HEU (1 HEU = 187 gallons per day)

Sewer charges will be adjusted on July 1 of each year. The volumetric charge will be based on actual average monthly water usage for the preceding months of January through April.

Special District Risk  
Management Authority

Maximizing Protection.  
Minimizing Risk.

1112 I Street, Suite 300  
Sacramento, California 95814-2865  
T 916.231.4141  
T 800.537.7790  
F 916.231.4111  
www.sdrma.org



RECEIVED  
FEB 23 2015

February 19, 2015

Ms. Tami Ipsen  
Administrative Assistant  
Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District  
19400 Hartmann Road  
Hidden Valley Lake, California 95467-8371

Dear Ms. Ipsen,

**On January 8, 2015, the SDRMA Board of Directors approved a longevity distribution for the sixth year in a row.** The Longevity Distribution Policy was adopted by the Board to recognize and reward members for their loyalty and commitment to SDRMA programs. The policy is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Board's strategic business plan and helps ensure pool stability by rewarding members for remaining in our Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation programs.

There is no action required by your agency. Every member that has completed the 3 full program year initial commitment period for either the Property/Liability or Workers' Compensation program is eligible to receive a longevity distribution credit for that particular program when they renew coverage. The longevity distribution may only be declared by the Board of Directors each year only after all Board policy reserve requirements have been met. The amount available for the longevity distribution is the amount of investment earnings on reserves above the Board approved confidence level for each program as of June 30. The distribution is weighted based on the member's length of time in that program and the amount of the member's annual contributions compared to the total contributions of all pool members.

This year, the Board approved a longevity distribution in the amount of \$819,256 for Property/Liability members and \$178,031 for Workers' Compensation members. For the Property/Liability program, over 90% of members will receive the distribution credit and for the Workers' Compensation program, over 87% of members will receive the distribution credit.

**Congratulations! Since you have participated in our Property/Liability program for 14 years as of June 30, 2014, your agency will receive a longevity distribution credit on your 2015-16 renewal invoice in the amount of \$2,110! We encourage you to share this valuable news with your governing body!**

**REMINDER** – We hope to see you at our Annual Membership Meeting and Safety/Claims Education Day on March 24, 2015 at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West Hotel! Visit our website, [www.sdrma.org](http://www.sdrma.org) and click on "Register for a training workshop" in the lower right-hand column for more information.

Thank you for your participation and helping make SDRMA a premier risk management provider! If you have any questions, please contact the SDRMA Finance Department at 800.537.7790 or 916.231.4141.

Sincerely,  
Special District Risk Management Authority

David Aranda, President  
Board of Directors



## Despite flush reservoirs, Sonoma County water officials stress need for conservation

BY MARY CALLAHAN THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on March 29, 2015, 6:39PM03/29/2015

As California confronts its fourth year of drought and the window for any significant spring rainfall closes, the North Coast has more water in storage than a year ago and is in better position than much of the state to meet its supply needs during the traditionally warm, dry months ahead.

Having endured a near-rainless January and a fourth consecutive winter with below-normal rainfall, local residents can thank several drenching days in December and February for bringing season-to-date rainfall to nearly 24 inches — the most in four years and just 8 inches shy of average for this date.

The total was enough to officially downgrade the drought in most of Sonoma County and all of Mendocino County from “extreme” to “severe,” according to the U.S. Drought Monitor federal index and map program. With the Sierra Nevada snowpack at a record low, two-thirds of the state remains in a state of “extreme” or “exceptional” drought.

That’s not to say, however, that the crisis is over on the North Coast, experts said. The strain on groundwater — the other major local source aside from reservoirs — has managers especially concerned. Pumping, by farmers especially, has outpaced groundwater replenishment from rainfall across much of the state. Sonoma County’s aquifers, while not as heavily tapped as those in the Central Valley, for example, are still under significant pressure. Conservation will continue to be key, water managers said.

“We’re not out of this thing by any stretch of the imagination, that’s for sure,” said Jay Jasperse, chief engineer and director of groundwater management for the Sonoma County Water Agency, wholesale supplier to more than 600,000 people in Sonoma and Marin counties.

The region’s main reservoir, Lake Sonoma, fed by a tributary to the Russian River, has more than 216,000 acre feet of water in storage, or about 88 percent of its water supply capacity. Last year at this time, the reservoir was at 72 percent of its capacity, according to the state Department of Water Resources.

To the north, at smaller Lake Mendocino, storage is nearly 65,000 acre feet, or 79 percent of water supply capacity. Last year at this time, it was at roughly 47 percent, according to state records.

The improved storage outlook is expected to provide some cushion — for drinking water, farming and recreational uses — but it’s important to remember that the benchmark this spring follows two exceptionally dry years, water officials said.

“It’s better than last year, but last year was very, very bad,” Jasperse said.

“We basically bought ourselves six months of breathing room,” Don McEnhill, director of the group Russian Riverkeeper, said of the few good winter storms — what meteorologists now call “atmospheric river events.”

“We’ll probably get through the summer,” said McEnhill, a veteran waterman who spends many hours paddling boats on the Russian River.

Emily Chase, office manager at SOAR Inflatables/Russian River adventures in Healdsburg, said even with less rain last year, her company ran trips through mid-November, the latest ever.

With more rain this year, “We’ll see what happens, but we’ll be running trips all season for sure,” she said.

Still, McEnhill and others warned against the kind of complacency evident in urban consumption figures released March 3, which demonstrated a steep decline in statewide conservation efforts once the December rains appeared and January rains did not.

While some cities, including Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park and the Mendocino County community of Redwood Valley, continued to conserve — using at least 20 percent less water than they did in the previous January, and meeting a reduction goal issued last summer by Gov. Jerry Brown — many other communities on the North Coast and statewide saw their consumption shoot up. The trend resulted in a shift from December, when water consumption statewide fell by 22 percent from December 2013, to a year-over-year January savings of just 8.8 percent, according to the state Water Resources Control Board. (The numbers do not include the smallest utilities, of 3,000 customers or less, which are not required to report usage.)

Consumers jumped the gun after the intense December storm, and then the rain stopped until mid-February, Jasperse said. “It should be a caution event to everybody — that switch turns off, and that we can’t predict that with any great level of foresight.”

Even now, the Water Agency and its municipal contractors are formulating new outdoor irrigation regulations that would restrict consumers to watering only on specific days of the week, in keeping with expanded statewide drought emergency rules adopted by the Water Resources Control Board earlier this month.

Among other measures to comply with state mandates, local cities and water districts already limit outdoor watering to night-time hours only, to limit evaporation.

Felicia Marcus, chairwoman of the state water board, said California residents also can expect “more significant” regulations to be developed in the months ahead to help the state prepare for the possibility of continuing drought.

In an interview last week, she said lessons from Australia, which recently emerged from a 13-year drought, show that it might be years before normal rainfall returns.

“I just think that people have to look at their water use assuming it’s not going to rain in the foreseeable future, and they need to look at what they’re using water for today as if they won’t have it tomorrow — either for fish, if that’s what motivates them, or for drinking water,” Marcus said.

Ranchers, grape growers and others who divert water from the Russian River have been on notice since January that those with junior water rights could face curtailments again this year, forbidding

those with certain kinds of permits from diverting river water or pumping from wells connected to river flows. Last year, 652 permit holders north of Healdsburg were forced to stop withdrawing water for six months, unless they could claim rights under a different permit.

Katherine Mrowka, enforcement manager for the state Division of Water Rights, said Russian River diverters should not assume they will be curtailed this year because the watershed is in better condition than it was last year.

But she said it's hard to predict: Curtailment orders are determined by ongoing evaluations of stream-flow conditions and water demand, so conditions could warrant curtailments at any time, she said.

Though it's past time for the kind of "Miracle March" that in the past has rescued the region from drought, there's still hope for rain this spring.

Santa Rosa has received an average 3.74 inches of rain between April 1 and June 30 over the past 30 years — or about 10 percent of the normal amount for the season, National Weather Service meteorologists said.

But the likelihood of such weather diminishes with each passing day, and there is no precipitation predicted in the foreseeable future.

That's bad news for livestock ranchers like Joe Pozzi of Valley Ford who need ample spring rain to produce the grass that permits them to bring their sheep and cattle up to weight. The cost of hauling in hay, which is increasingly scarce and expensive due to drought, means some ranchers may end up selling off animals, he said.

Even though the reservoir levels were lower last year, at least there was some March rain to green up the pastures, said John Azevedo, president of the Sonoma County Farm Bureau.

Even a little rain does "a lot for soil moisture — just kind of maintenance, at the surface level, and, again, for pasture and grass growth, those are really good storms," he said.

But local agricultural interests, overall, are in better stead than they were last year, he said.

"Right now, we are in much better shape, I think, than most of the state, at least in the short term," Azevedo said. "That's the good news, with the reservoir levels and the rain that we have had. Thank goodness we're not dependent on a snowpack, because there isn't any anywhere."

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# Clearlake Oaks County Water District plans hearings on proposed water, sewer rate increases



MONDAY, 13 APRIL 2015 00:05 ELIZABETH LARSON

CLEARLAKE OAKS, Calif. – The Clearlake Oaks County Water District will host two upcoming hearings to discuss a proposed ordinance to increase water and sewer rates for customers.

The public hearings will take place at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 16, at Live Oak Senior Center, 12519 Foothill Blvd., and 10 a.m. Friday, April 24, at the district's administrative office, 12952 E. Highway 20.

In addition to the copy of the ordinance that's posted below, a full copy of it may be obtained at the district's administrative office during regular business hours or on the district's Web site at [www.clocwd.org](http://www.clocwd.org).

The California Rural Water Association completed a study of the district's current rates, determining that a new water base rate and an increase in current rates was needed to provide sufficient revenue and maintain the district's water and sewer systems, according to the hearing notice.

The proposed ordinance the district board will consider would, if approved, establish a base rate for water and sewer services for all customers with a district connection and institute a tiered water usage rate.

The district proposes to change its billing procedures from one based on active accounts to one that takes into account all service connections, meaning that all customers on the district – whether they use water or not – would have to pay the proposed base rates.

In addition, the ordinance would implement a 3-percent per-year rate increase in 2016, 2017 and 2018, and increase the capital improvement account fee by \$2 per year for both water and sewer beginning in July 2016.

Residential customers in tier one would have a base rate of \$37.87 and a usage rate of \$1.30 per 100 cubic feet for a total monthly bill of \$40.47 if they use 200 cubic feet of water – or 1,496 gallons, according to district documents.

Comparatively, the same customer in 2018 would have a base rate of \$47.56 and usage rate of \$2.84 for a total monthly bill of \$50.40.

Additional rate tiers can be viewed in the documents below.

"Annually the board will be reviewing what effects these rates are having," said district General Manager Matthew Bassett.

If adopted, the new rates would go into effect in this July's billing cycle, according to the district's hearing notice.

While the rates were last raised just three years ago, Bassett said the rates need to go up again in order to support district operations.

He emphasized that district payroll has not gone up, but other expenses have.

The biggest problem, however, is the district's aging infrastructure, which Bassett said dates from the 1960s.

"It's at the point where it has to be replaced – not just repaired," Bassett said.

The district also is under a state cleanup and abatement order. "If we don't address the failing infrastructure then the state will call us out on the violation," Bassett said.

He said the district already has taken the first steps needed to address the state's requirements, and is now in the

middle of a sewer infrastructure study to look at what upgrades are needed.

Bassett said the district received a \$381,000 state grant to fund the sewer collection study. In addition, the district is pursuing separate grants and loans from the government to make needed upgrades, including \$400,000 in grants for a distribution study and a \$1 million grant for new water meters.

To fully fund capital improvements and collect enough to pay the bills, as of this July the district would have had to collect \$83 a month each customer for water alone, and about the same for sewer – far above current rates, Bassett said.

However, he said such a raise wouldn't have been realistic, and instead the district board has looked at a slower increase, with the plans to review the rates annually and do a true rate study again in three years.

With the proceeds from the rate increases, the district plans to undertake infrastructure projects including buying and installing a new \$1.5 million clarifier for the sewer plant to replace one from the 1960s, Bassett said.

The district has a total of 12 sewer lift stations; Bassett said between eight and 10 of them need to be replaced at a cost of between \$150,000 to \$200,000 each.

The new lift stations will be made of stainless steel, not cast iron like the current ones, and rather than having to put people down into them for repairs, they'll be on rails and equipment can be lowered down into them, which he said will increase worker safety.

There also is the need to replace many miles of sewer lines – just how many will be determined by the sewer distribution study that's now under way and expected to be finished by fall, Bassett said.

There also will be a complete engineering and review of the sewer plant, where Bassett said they're looking at reducing sludge and heavy metals.

The proposed rate changes are a matter of being proactive about the district's needs and infrastructure, Bassett said.

"We're not kicking the can down the road," said Bassett. "It's at our doorstep. We've got to address it."

**Email Elizabeth Larson at [el Larson@lakeconews.com](mailto:el Larson@lakeconews.com) . Follow her on Twitter, @ERLarson, or Lake County News, @LakeCoNews.**

[April 2015 - Clearlake Oaks County Water District water and sewer rate ordinance](#)

[April 2015](#)

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LAST UPDATED ( MONDAY, 13 APRIL 2015 00:11 )

## Drought response barrels forward

By Josh Richman, Kerry Klein and Jessica Calefati, Bay Area News Group

record-bee.com

SACRAMENTO >> California's water restrictions barreled ahead Wednesday with stringent new standards for all toilets, urinals and faucets sold in the state starting in 2016 — another sign that the Golden State's drought situation truly is circling the drain.

The California Energy Commission adopted low-flow regulations — new toilets will be limited to 1.28 gallons per flush — that will save more than 10 billion gallons in the first year, and in time, up to 105 billion gallons per year — more than three times the annual amount of water used by San Francisco.

The new regulations came one day after the State Water Resources Control Board rolled out a proposed framework requiring all urban water suppliers to cut residential water use by 10 to 35 percent below 2013 levels, and on the same day that Gov. Jerry Brown met for three hours with farmers, environmentalists and local water officials about the state's drought response.

Some areas will have to work harder to meet the new cutback standards, acknowledged Max Gomberg, a state water board scientist who helped draft the plan.

The mandatory cuts are "going to be more of a challenge for hotter inland areas, but if you look at what the native vegetation there was, and what the vegetation is now that people live there ... there has to be a transition."

The goals aren't set in stone yet. The state water board for the next month will hear from the public about how different areas' climate, temperature, lot sizes and other water-use drivers should be taken into account. "We have to consider what will be fair and what will be feasible," Gomberg said.

The plan calls for comparing each water supplier's monthly data, starting this June, to the same month in 2013. If a district misses its assigned goal, the state could start with informal warning letters and then move to formal cease-and-desist orders — the latter of which could come with fines of up to \$10,000 per day. But that doesn't mean the board will come out guns a'blazing, Gomberg said. "We're still working out the details... There is no enforcement plan yet."

Some face the proposed cuts stoically. "We'll do what it takes to get there," said Justin Skarb, spokesman for the California Water Service.

### Advertisement

Cal Water's "Bear Gulch" service area — Woodside, Atherton, Portola Valley and portions of Menlo Park and Redwood City — was handed the state's most severe 35 percent conservation target, which is far larger than the 11 percent reduction it has achieved since



2013. But mandatory means mandatory, Skarb said: "We will need to work with all our customers, including the large users, to achieve these conservation standards."

Others already have cut water use deeply enough to exceeded the new proposal's goals. The Dublin San Ramon Services District's per capita residential water use is down by 29 percent since 2013, far better than the 20 percent standard it will be asked to meet. The district handed out low-flow showerheads, general manager Bert Michalczyk said Wednesday and started a "wildly successful" program letting customers get up to 250 gallons of treated wastewater for landscaping irrigation. The district's website lets residents track their water use in real time and receive emails or texts if they're overusing. "I give the community the tools and they're the ones, person by person, who make it happen," he said.

# Vegetable gardening in a drought

**By Joan Morris**

*Bay Area News Group*

Growing a vegetable garden in a drought may seem reckless if not impossible, but Contra Costa Master Gardener Janet Miller says there are ways to lower your water use and still have a healthy, fruitful summer garden.

Miller, speaking at the opening day of Our Garden, a demonstration garden that is a joint endeavor of the master gardeners and the Bay Area News Group in Walnut Creek, says home gardens use less water than commercial growers.

Here are some tips:

Don't spare the compost. Add 3 to 4 inches of compost to your garden beds and work it lightly into the soil. Healthy soil produces healthy plants, which need less water.

Mulch. Add 3 to 5 inches of mulch on top of beds to help reduce water evaporation. Mulch can be almost anything including dried leaves, aged horse manure, extra compost or straw, not hay. Mulch also will repress weed growth.

Install a drip irrigation system. Drip systems use much less water than any other form of irrigation, and the plants like it better, too.

Be selective. Plant only what you like and only as much as you'll consume.

Consider planting early maturing and short-season crops, which will use less water.

Plant seedlings close together on an offset pattern, rather than in a row. This configuration uses less water and as the plants grow, they will shade the soil and reduce evaporation.

Grow high-yield vegetables, such as beans, squash, egg plant, peppers and tomatoes. You'll get more for your water buck with these plants.

Keep your beds weeded. Weeds not only are annoying, they compete with your plants for water and nutrients, and they are much better at grabbing them.

When given a choice, plant determinate varieties. Determinate plants grow to a certain size and produce for a specific amount of time. Indeterminate varieties will continue to grow and produce until frost. The determinate types, with their shorter growing season, will use less water.

Instead of planting seeds and watering the entire bed, start seeds in a tray and then transplant the seedlings into your garden.

We typically do this with certain plants, such as tomatoes, in order to get a head start on the growing season, but consider doing it with the big seed plants such as pumpkins, corn and squash.

Use shade cloth to help prevent soil evaporation and prevent sunburn.

Try dry farming. Many plants, including tomatoes, can be dry farmed. Our Garden will have two demonstration beds this year, growing a number of different tomato varieties.

For successful dry farming, you want to create a spongy growing medium that will hold water. The best way, Miller says, is to grow a cover crop over the winter and then cut the plants down and work them into the soil.

If you didn't have a cover crop, then prepare the bed with lots of compost.

Plant your tomatoes and water them as usual for the first few days to get them established, then water only once a week. Once the tomatoes flower and set fruit, cut off all water. The plants may not look great, but they will produce and some say the fruit will taste better.

The key to a productive, healthy vegetable garden is location, soil and planting the right plant at the right time.

If plants require a lot of sun, be sure to plant them where they'll get the most. Amend your soil to make sure it has plenty of nutrients to feed the plants, and don't try to grow crops that aren't in season. Getting a soil test will help you to know what might be lacking in your soil.

Just because you can buy a plant at a nursery doesn't mean it will grow. California gardeners can have year round crops, Miller says, but you can't grow everything at the same time.

Grow cool season crops, such as leafy greens, beets, turnips and peas in February through April, include. Warm season crops — egg plant, beans, squash and tomatoes — are grown from April through July. August through November is the time to plant cold season crops such as broccoli and cilantro. December and January are "no plant" months, Miller says.

If you have trouble getting your squash to produce, you likely don't have many or any male blossoms on the vines. Crush a leaf on the plant to trigger a hormone in the squash to produce male blossoms.

Stake tomato and pepper plants early, otherwise they can quickly get too large to properly support.

If you have trouble with your sweet peppers getting sunburned, cover them with shade cloth after they have set fruit and the peppers are small.

Our Garden offers free classes at 10 a.m. every Wednesday from April through October. This year, repeat classes will be offered the first Saturday of every month.

Master Gardeners are available to answer questions and a large selection of seedling are available. The garden is at Wiget Lane and Shadelands Drive, Walnut Creek.

# WEATHER: Forecasters say this week's California rain and snow 'too little, too late'



WEDNESDAY, 08 APRIL 2015 01:27 BRIAN LADA

ACCUWEATHER GLOBAL WEATHER CENTER – AccuWeather reports rain and mountain snow returning to California early this week is a welcome sight but will do little to ease the historic drought gripping the state.

The storm pushed across California through Tuesday night, spreading rain across the state as well as delivering much-needed snow to the Sierra Nevada.

This comes just days after California Gov. Jerry Brown announced the first-ever statewide mandatory water restrictions in an effort to reduce water usage due to the drought.

Unfortunately, an end to those water restrictions will not come with this storm. As AccuWeather.com Western Weather Expert Ken Clark stated, "The rain and snow early this week is too little, too late for any drought relief."

"With such a severe deficit of rain and snow over the past four years, the amount of rain and snow from this one storm will have virtually no effect on the seriousness of the current drought."

For much of the winter and early spring, storms have tracked north of California with only a small number of storms tracking far enough south to bring rain to the Golden State. The storm early this week was one of those latter storms.

"For many locations in central and Southern California, this will be the first measurable precipitation they have had since early March," said AccuWeather.com Meteorologist Michael Doll.

While doing little for drought relief, the rain will bring some short-term benefits, including the snow forecast to fall over the mountains.

"Parts of the northern Sierra Range will likely receive over a foot of snow," said Doll. "For the ski resorts that are still open, this will offer an opportunity to extend the ski season a while longer."

Unfortunately, the pattern of wet weather across California is not expected to last for long.

Much of the precipitation associated with the early week storm will depart the region on Wednesday as the storm tracks into the Plains.

This will leave behind dry and sunny weather for Thursday and Friday with dry conditions persisting into the weekend.

Prospects for rain returning this weekend have diminished as latest indications keep the much-needed wet weather offshore.

## A look at the drought

The drought in California has been gradually escalating in severity over the last four years and is now at its worst level yet.

"It is no secret that the historic drought continues in California," said Clark. "For the fourth year in a row, rain and snowfall has been far below normal."

"At no time has the Sierra snowpack seen so little snow on April 1 as this year," added Clark.

On April 1, California Gov. Jerry Brown announced the mandatory restrictions in an effort to reduce water usage by 25 percent.

According to a report from the California Department of Water Resources, "Water conservation must become a way

of life during the worst drought in most Californians' lifetimes.”

The order is an escalation of Brown's January 2014 request that Californians voluntarily reduce their water usage by 20 percent.

However, this order did leave out one of the most important aspects of the drought: agriculture.

As much as 80 percent of water use in California is used for farming, according to Clark.

This could lead to higher prices at the supermarket to compensate for the higher cost of watering crops across California. A hike in food prices may be felt all across the country since California agriculture produces many of the fruits, vegetables and nuts in the United States.

The latest report from the U.S. Drought Monitor classifies nearly the entire state of California is in a drought.

The report, which was released on April 2, 2015, classifies 93 percent of California in a severe drought and 41 percent of California in an exceptional drought, the highest level of drought classification.

The Palmer Index, another way of analyzing drought conditions, also classifies much of the state of being in an extreme drought.

California is not the only state in the West experiencing a drought. The extreme drought conditions over much of California also extend into portions of Nevada and Oregon.

In total, the U.S. Drought Monitor states that more than 52 million people are being affected by drought conditions across the West.

Many more storms are required to put a significant dent in the historic drought.

Unfortunately, the clock is ticking before the dry season settles in across the West.

**Brian Lada is a meteorologist for [www.AccuWeather.com](http://www.AccuWeather.com).**

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## California water board says February savings were worst yet

**BY FENIT NIRAPPIL ASSOCIATED PRESS on April 7, 2015, 12:13PM04/07/2015**

SACRAMENTO — California's water board said Tuesday that February was the worst month for conservation since officials began tracking savings efforts nine months ago in response to the state's historic drought.

Figures reported by local water departments showed statewide reductions of just 3 percent in February compared with baseline numbers, despite following the driest January on California record.

The dismal savings come as cities brace for mandatory water restrictions.

These are "obviously very sobering times and ones where everyone needs to step up," said Felicia Marcus, chairwoman of the State Water Resources Control Board.

Conservation varied widely across the state. The report showed water use increasing 2 percent along the south coastline, which includes Los Angeles and San Diego. San Francisco Bay Area communities, meanwhile, cut back by 8 percent.

The figures support Gov. Jerry Brown's position that voluntary water cutbacks haven't been enough as dry conditions worsen. Brown signed an order last week demanding a 25 percent drop in statewide urban water use compared to 2013, the year before he declared a drought emergency.

The State Water Resources Control Board also began discussing Tuesday how to enforce new mandatory reductions, fast-tracking regulations that will likely come up for a vote next month. The requirements are likely to include cutback targets based on how much water city residents use.

Brown called on residents to voluntarily reduce water use by 20 percent when he declared the drought emergency in January 2014.

But statewide conservation has only been about 10 percent, with some communities exceeding 30 percent. Places such as Newport Beach, which cut average monthly water use by 5.5 percent between July and January, face fines if they do not take steps to conserve.

Newport Beach already limits lawn watering to four times a week, which is more lenient than state recommendations, and it prohibits residents from refilling their pools more than 1 foot a week. Still, since July, Newport Beach residents used 124 gallons a day, compared with 100 gallons a day for other residents who live along the southern coastline.

After months spent informing residents about new water-use rules, Newport Beach officials are seeking new authority to issue fines and have sent out hundreds of warnings.

"We liked the friendly approach, and it seems to be working well, but we aren't afraid to issue citations," said George Murdoch, the city's utilities general manager.

The water board has given local water departments discretion to come up with their own conservation rules, but it has established some statewide regulations, such as banning lawn watering 48 hours after rain and prohibiting restaurants from serving water unless customers ask.

The agency also plans to have municipalities penalize overconsumption through billing rates.

Up and down the coast, water use is expected to increase this summer as tourists and seasonal residents flood into beach homes. Those guests and visitors haven't been exposed to the same conservation outreach as Californians, presenting an extra challenge.

Meanwhile, Southern California's giant Metropolitan Water District will vote next week on a plan to ration water deliveries to the 26 agencies and cities it supplies, the Los Angeles Times reported Monday.

The cuts, which would take effect July 1, were proposed before the governor imposed the mandatory restrictions and are expected to drive agencies to curb demand and help meet the conservation goals.

Metropolitan last rationed deliveries in 2009 and 2010, during the previous drought.



## Sonoma County Water Agency hits clean energy goal

**BY ANGELA HART THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on April 6, 2015, 7:11PM04/06/2015**

To pump, treat and transport the drinking water for 660,000 North Bay residents, the Sonoma County Water Agency uses enough electricity every day to power the equivalent of about 6,500 local homes.

Going forward, all that electricity will be from renewable and carbon-free sources, meaning it will come from the expanding network of solar installations popping up around the county, as well as from The Geysers geothermal fields on the Sonoma-Lake county line and other established green energy projects.

The Water Agency has been moving steadily toward the clean energy goal since 2006 and this year expects to hit its target, a benchmark that officials celebrated on Monday.

“This is a big deal,” said Rep. Jared Huffman, D-San Rafael, who gathered with local and state lawmakers at the headquarters of Santa Rosa Water, the city’s utilities department. “If we’re going to tackle this huge problem of climate change, we’re going to have to address that embedded footprint in how we manage water.”

The two largest local renewable energy sources for the Water Agency include hydroelectric power generated by Warm Springs Dam at Lake Sonoma, which supplies more than a quarter of the agency’s needs, and a power plant that generates electricity from methane gas at the Central Landfill, accounting for about 55 percent of the agency’s needs.

The remainder of the Water Agency’s supply comes from a combination of local solar installations — the water wholesaler has installed three systems totaling more than 3,000 solar panels on county-owned property — and from sources linked to Sonoma Clean Power, the public provider, or other hydroelectric projects.

Officials on Monday said that transitioning to clean energy sources for water management will be an increasingly important part of reducing emissions that are fueling climate change.

A report released Monday by the Union of Concerned Scientists that found an estimated 20 percent of the energy California consumes is used to pump, treat, transport and heat water. In Sonoma County, the Water Agency — the largest power user countywide — accounts for about 5 percent of overall electricity use.

Juliet Christian-Smith, co-author of the Union of Concerned Scientists’ report, said Sonoma County is on the forefront of developing initiatives aimed at reducing carbon emissions.

“What Sonoma County is doing is really a model for a lot of other areas,” Christian-Smith said.

“It takes a lot more than snow and rainfall to keep California’s taps flowing. It takes energy, and a lot of it, particularly during this record-setting drought.”



As California's population grows and reserves dwindle, fresh water is expected to become increasingly more expensive, Christian-Smith said.

But local governments and water suppliers that invest in renewable energy, such as solar, wind and hydroelectric power, will have greater control over that cost, Christian-Smith said.

The Water Agency provides drinking water to customers in Santa Rosa, Sonoma, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Petaluma, Windsor, Valley of the Moon and parts of Marin.

Sonoma County has won accolades for other climate change initiatives. Last year, it was one of 16 communities nationwide recognized by the White House as a leader for its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The county has set a goal of reducing emissions to 25 percent below 1990 levels by this year. Less aggressive targets set in 2006 legislation call for California as a whole to reach 1990 emissions levels by 2020.

The Water Agency's zero-carbon footprint is expected to be certified by mid-2016 by the Climate Registry, the nonprofit program used to track and manage measures and standards for greenhouse gas reduction measures across North America.

Supervisors said the county would continue working on policies aimed at reducing human causes of climate change.

"We want to set an example nationwide," said Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Susan Gorin.

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## California cities pressured to step up to slash water use

4 HOURS AGO • FENIT NIRAPPIL ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — Determined to erase its spotty water conservation record, the wealthy coastal community of Newport Beach is among the cities preparing to crack down on water guzzlers and wasters in response to California's worsening drought.

Cities are facing increased pressure to slash water use after Gov. Jerry Brown last week ordered a mandatory statewide 25 percent drop in urban water use compared with 2013 levels.

The State Water Resources Control Board on Tuesday will start discussing how to enforce that mandatory reduction, which will likely include cutback targets for cities based on how much water their residents already use. The board also will issue its monthly water use report card for February, following the driest January on record.

Brown called on residents to voluntarily reduce water use by 20 percent when he declared a drought emergency in January 2014. Californians only hit that target once — in December — prompting stronger action by the governor.

Statewide conservation has been about 10 percent, with some communities exceeding 30 percent. Places such as Newport Beach, which cut average monthly water use by 5.5 percent between July and January, face fines if they do not take steps to conserve.

Newport Beach already limits lawn watering to four times a week, which is double the state recommendation, and prohibits residents from refilling their pools more than 1 foot a week. Still, since July, Newport Beach residents used 124 gallons a day, compared with 100 gallons a day for other residents who live along the southern coastline.

After months spent "educating" residents about what days they can water lawns and how much water they use, Newport Beach officials are seeking new authority to issue fines and have been sending out hundreds of warnings.

"We liked the friendly approach, and it seems to be working well, but we aren't afraid to issue citations," said George Murdoch, the city's utilities general manager.

The water board has given local water departments discretion to come up with their own conservation rules but has set some statewide regulations, such as banning lawn watering 48 hours after rain and prohibiting restaurants from serving water unless customers ask.

The agency is also going to direct municipalities to charge customers in a way that penalizes overconsumption.

Newport Beach is already limiting residential water consumption to a residence's three-year average before the drought emergency. Customers have received written warnings for years if they went over their average water use but will start getting fined later if they exceed levels this year, Murdoch said.

Water use is expected to increase this summer as tourists and seasonal residents flood into beach homes. Those guests and visitors haven't been exposed to the same conservation outreach as Californians, presenting an extra challenge.

"I get it we aren't as low as the state average, but we're still heading in the right direction," said Murdoch, noting a 22 percent drop in water use in January.

## The Washington Post

### Health & Science

# As water runs dry, Californians brace for a new way of life

By **Darryl Fears** April 4

PASADENA, Calif. — His lawn was thick, healthy and gorgeous, and Mike Duran was in love. “It was so green. It was so lush,” he said. But the relationship had financial issues. Watering the grass cost about \$1,200 every other month in this drought-stricken state.

“The money I was spending for water, I had to make a change,” Duran said. The yard has been an arrangement of sand and cactus for three months now. “Emotionally, it took me a little time to adjust, to say the least,” he said.

When Gov. Jerry Brown (D) told Californians last week that watering grass every day is “going to be a thing of the past” and announced the first mandatory water restrictions in the state’s history, people in a region full of swimming pools, pretty lawns and flowers bursting in technicolor began to worry that the place would start to look a lot more like Arizona.

“Without water, you can’t live in California,” said Bill Whalen, who works on politics, and the politics of water, at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution. “It ties into the California psyche.

“They have plush lawns and nice gardens that require lots of water. They have the ocean and Lake Tahoe skiing. You have a nice car. You want it clean. You need water,” said Whalen, who was a speechwriter for former governor Pete Wilson (R). “You can’t have California agriculture without water. You lose the nation’s salad bowl.”

California is faced with a double whammy of high temperatures — the state just had its warmest winter on record — and low rainfall that is exacerbated by an atmospheric pattern that for three years straight has diverted winter storms away from the state, depriving it of crucial precipitation. The outlook, if global greenhouse gas emissions are not decreased, is a megadrought lasting 30 years for California and several Southwestern states, a NASA study said.

*[California, Arizona and the looming megadrought]*

The state is in the fourth year of a severe drought. With its snowpack level near zero, the lowest ever recorded, Brown ordered California's 400 water agencies to cut their output by 25 percent or face fines of up to \$10,000 per month, a state official said, a penalty that can be passed to homeowners who fail to comply.

A survey last month by the Public Policy Institute of California, a nonprofit think tank in San Francisco, shows that Californians realize they are running out of water. Nearly 70 percent said supplies will be inadequate in 10 years.

### **A divide over agriculture**

Brown's announcement, however, created a divide by targeting urban residents but not farmers, who use 80 percent of the state's water and grow crops such as rice and almonds that require prodigious amounts of water.

"We don't like when we see a double standard," said Adam Scow, the California director of Food and Water Watch, a nonprofit environmental group. "Everybody's going to have to do their part. The guys using all the water — you're not asking them to do their part? It's dishonest."

He called Brown's exclusion of farmers a "failure to lead" and "be a governor for all" state residents.

In a state where governors often give deference to the \$40 billion agriculture industry, Scow said Brown's exclusion was "not a surprise." Farmers have sucked out so much groundwater for crops over the past decade that it cannot be replaced naturally. Yet there was no plan to regulate its removal until Brown signed legislation to manage groundwater last year.

"There's booming almond production in the Central Valley," Scow said. "It takes four times as much water to grow almonds in the heat of the valley. The solution is to buy out the farmers and put the land to other uses."

But that threatens people's livelihoods, said state agriculture officials and others who defend the farmers. As water drained, 400,000 farm acres were taken out of use and nearly 20,000 jobs were lost last year.

Farmers are getting only 20 percent of the water they request from the State Water Project, which captures water in the northern parts of California and pumps it to various water agencies.

“Agriculture is already taking a hard hit,” said Felicia Marcus, chair of the State Water Resources Control Board. She called the 80 percent to 20 percent difference in urban and agricultural use “an artificial breakdown” and said that “urban users depend on agricultural production. It’s not about finger-pointing. It’s about everybody having to step up.”

*[After a winter without snow, California’s governor orders water restrictions]*

Whalen called Brown’s restrictions a defining moment for both him and the state: “It’s rare that something comes out of Sacramento that hits on all levels. This is one of those things.”

Everybody takes a hit, Whalen said. Other governors were thrown out of office when that happened — Gray Davis (D) was recalled in the early 2000s, when, among other problems confronting his administration, rolling blackouts robbed Californians of power for days.

But in his second term and final four years as governor under term limits, Brown knows his time is short and “wants to do big things,” Whalen said. It is his chance to bring a diverse group of stakeholders to his office to talk about water.

“First thing to talk about is agriculture’s use of water, forcing them to look at whether we need thirsty crops like alfalfa,” Whalen said. Developers who build edifices with huge fountains, environmentalists who call for too many restrictions and other fixes, and urban planners should all be at the table, he said.

“It’s a conversation that can lead to action.”

In the Pasadena area, a few miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles, homeowners do not appear ready to take action. Along the winding roads leading to the storied Huntington Library, Art Collection and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, dozens of workers trimmed lawns and watered flowers Friday.

“It worries me,” said Duran, who lives in the city known for the Rose Bowl, the Rose Parade and homes with huge emerald yards adorned with thirsty azaleas.

“I know a lot of people don’t care. But what’s going to happen in years to come? These houses, these mansions. They have the money. They don’t care,” Duran said. He thought a mean thing: “I hope they fine them. I hope they charge them a lot.”

Duran said that by making a switch from grass to sand and succulents, he saved \$900 on a water bill that arrives every two months.

“But my neighbors are not ready to do it,” he said.

Down the street, Lenon Mitchell said he will not rip out his turf for a desert motif.

“I’m not interested in that,” he said. “I’ll just keep it like it is and water it less till the rain comes back.”

Mitchell moved to the neighborhood more than 40 years ago and has steadily watered his modest lawn and plants less and less because of increasing water rates and decreasing rain. He pointed at the house next door, with a yard that looked like his, and his neighbors across the street with lawns that were green with lots of brown patches.

The street stretched for a mile, showcasing traditional lawns with a mixture of palms, bird of paradise plants and azaleas on an 80-degree day.

## **Getting by with less water**

Los Angeles has more carwashes than any other city in the United States, and California has more than any other state, said Brad Hooper, board president for the Western Carwash Association. Hooper said carwash owners saw the writing on the wall when they were hit with high water bills years ago and started using reclaimed water.

For beautiful lawns, Californians turn to landscapers such as Larry Rohlfes of the California Association of Landscapers. At first, he said, his members were worried about water loss, but now they think Brown’s announcement could be a godsend.

People will still want their homes to look nice, and they will need experts to make over their lawns with a stunning desert flair. Change “is going to come as a shock to many of our members,” Rohlfes said, “but they will have the tools to help clients make the shift to a different landscape. There are many ways to make them beautiful and use less water.”

On the other hand, said Barbara Alvarez, the owner of a landscape maintenance company, the governor's pledge to rip up 50 million square feet of thirsty turf will devastate people who sell sod.

"They are really going to suffer," she said.

But California has to do something, said Kerry Townsend, who lives in Redondo Beach with her husband and two children. California is hotter than ever, she said. She feels it every day.

"When I moved here nearly 10 years ago, we actually had a change of seasons through the winter," she said. "It was lovely. Now it feels like summer all the time, and it never rains. It has just gotten hotter over time."

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Darryl Fears has worked at The Washington Post for more than a decade, mostly as a reporter on the National staff. He currently covers the environment, focusing on the Chesapeake Bay and issues affecting wildlife.

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## Lawn-watering cutbacks alone could meet governor's demand

BY GUY KOVNER THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on April 5, 2015, 6:01PM04/05/2015

Curbing Californians' passion for watering their lawns will be central to the campaign to meet Gov. Jerry Brown's demand for a 25 percent reduction in water consumption this year, state and local water officials said.

"We really need the residents of California to immediately begin reducing their water use," said George Kostyrko, spokesman for the State Water Resources Control board.

Noting that outdoor watering accounts for up to 80 percent of urban water use in some areas, Kostyrko said that cutbacks on lawn irrigation could, by themselves, meet the governor's order issued last Wednesday, the state's first mandatory water-use restrictions.

"If people are really rigorous about outdoor use, only using it when we absolutely need to, we can meet the 25 percent (standard)," he said.

Californians pour about 1 million acre feet of water a year on lawns and landscaping, according to the Department of Water Resources, an amount that would fill Lake Sonoma, the North Bay's largest reservoir, four times.

The governor's order requires cities and other local water agencies to achieve a 25 percent water cutback this year, compared with use in 2013.

New regulations aimed at meeting that goal will be developed this month by state water officials and presented to the five-member water board in May, Kostyrko said.

Those regulations likely will include limits on the number of days per week on which lawn irrigation is allowed, a restriction some Sonoma County cities already have in place and others do not.

The town of Sonoma imposed a two-day-a-week limit last August, Public Works Director Dan Takasugi said. "We're a little bit ahead of the curve," he said.

Healdsburg allows lawn sprinkling every other day, a standard that may need to be tightened, Utility Director Terry Crowley said.

Windsor recommended a three-day limit to town water customers last summer and may now make it mandatory, said Paul Piazza, water conservation program manager.

A limit on watering days doesn't control the amount of water consumed, but it "simplifies the message to homeowners," he said.

Santa Rosa and Rohnert Park restrict outdoor irrigation to nighttime hours from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., with no limit on the number of days it can occur.

Dan Muelrath, general manager of the Valley of the Moon Water District, said that local water suppliers have collectively agreed to recommend to their boards of directors a limit of three or fewer days a week. On Tuesday, his board will consider a three-day limit.

Local water agency managers said they weren't sure if they would get credit for water conservation gains they already have achieved.

Valley of the Moon has reduced water use by 20 percent, compared to 2013, while Santa Rosa has cut use by 19 percent, Healdsburg is at 17 percent and Windsor's last estimate in December put the town at 16 percent, officials said.

Rohnert Park has reduced consumption by 12 percent, but has maintained the area's most robust recycled water system for 20 years and requires all new development to connect to that system for landscape irrigation, City Engineer Mary Grace Pawson said.

Overall, the nine cities and water agencies that buy water wholesale from the Sonoma County Water Agency cut use by 16 percent last year, compared with 2013.

Sonoma County's cities are "well positioned" to warrant a lower mandate than 25 percent, Piazza said.

Kostyrko acknowledged that some local water agencies have been conserving water for up to 20 years and the state intends to take that into account. "One of the things that will likely be addressed (in the forthcoming state regulations) is how to ensure that conservation-minded communities get credit for the work already done," he said.

County residents are generally doing a good job of conserving water, as six agencies reported per capita water use well below the state average of 72.6 gallons per day in January. Santa Rosa was lowest at 49 gallons per person, with Rohnert Park and Windsor residents using 50 gallons, Valley of the Moon customers at 51 gallons and Sonoma residents using 56 gallons.

Petaluma residents used 79 gallons per person daily, according to a state water board report.

Statewide, more than 146 billion gallons of water were saved from June to January 2014, compared with the same period in 2013, the report said.

Local water agencies have the authority to fine water wasters up to \$500, but Kostyrko said that penalty has rarely been used.

Santa Rosa will resume "water watch patrols" within a month as the weather warms up, said Jennifer Burke, deputy director of water and engineering services. The city has issued some water-use violations and customers have voluntarily corrected the problems, she said.

Sonoma's water system can detect dripping faucets, leaking toilet valves and pinhole leaks in a customer's pipes, Takasugi said. The city sends about 100 letters a month notifying residents of such problems, which can compromise water conservation efforts, he said.

Local water agencies have taken a variety of steps involving water rates since Gov. Brown's first call for conservation in January 2014.

Santa Rosa has no rate changes in the works, but can impose a 10 percent water shortage charge if conditions worsen, Burke said. Windsor is conducting a water-rate analysis, which is done periodically and is not drought-related.

Rohnert Park officials plan to present a water-rate increase to the City Council on April 14, including a 2 percent increase for residents at the lowest of three tiers to offset rising wholesale water costs, Pawson said.

Valley of the Moon is scheduled to restructure its tiered water rates in June, including a 4 percent reduction for residents at the lowest tier, using 5,000 gallons a month or less, and higher rates for those in the top three tiers, Muelrath said.

Sonoma raised water rates an average of 5 percent in January.

Healdsburg, which operates its own water system, charges a flat rate for all the water customers use, which involves no financial incentive for conservation, Crowley said. The city may switch to a tiered rate structure this year, he said, noting that “seems to be what the state wants.”

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# Supervisors to discuss water rights application

MONDAY, 06 APRIL 2015 00:05 ELIZABETH LARSON

LAKEPORT, Calif. – This week the Board of Supervisors will get an update on a study for a new water rights application and discuss appointing members to work on revisions to a legal document governing Clear Lake's water as part of an effort to move forward an ecosystem restoration project.

The board will meet beginning at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 7, in the board chambers on the first floor of the Lake County Courthouse, 255 N. Forbes St., Lakeport.

The meeting can be watched live on Channel 8 with the video available online at [http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/Board\\_of\\_Supervisors/calendar.htm](http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/Board_of_Supervisors/calendar.htm) . Accompanying board documents and the agenda also are available at that link.

In an untimed item, Water Resources Director Scott De Leon will take to the board an update on the engineering study regarding the water rights application for the Middle Creek Flood Damage Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration Project.

De Leon also will ask the board to appoint two of its members to work with staff and negotiate revisions to the Solano Decree with Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

De Leon's memo to the board for Tuesday's meeting explains that in April 2012 the county executed an agreement with Stetson Engineers to conduct hydrologic studies to determine the amount of additional storage and available "new" water created by the ecosystem restoration project.

He said the "new" water is "created" due to changes in the water balance, which include decreased irrigation from reclaimed farmland, increased lake surface area increases evaporation and increased storage leads to the lake not filling as fast, having more storage at a given lake level and having additional storage at 7.56 ft Rumsey.

"These changes require renegotiation of the Solano Decree which governs summer lake operations to insure Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (Yolo Flood) senior water rights are protected and to determine how much "new" water is available (water currently released as flood waters will be stored for beneficial use)," De Leon wrote in his report.

Yolo Flood holds the water rights to Clear Lake.

In other board business on Tuesday, presentations timed for 9:10 a.m. will offer proclamations recognizing Public Health Week, National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, National Crime Victims' Right Week, and marking April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention Month, Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Alcohol Awareness Month.

The full agenda follows.

## CONSENT AGENDA

7.1: Adopt resolution amending Resolution No. 2014-111 to amend the adopted budget for FY 2014-15 by Increasing Revenues and Appropriations in BU 2101- Trial Courts .

7.2: Approve designation of Supervisor Steele as alternate to the governing board for the Joint Powers Agreement for Operation of Planning and Service Area 26 - Area Agency on Aging - for Lake and Mendocino Counties.

7.3: Adopt proclamation designating the week of April 6-12, 2015 as Public Health Week in Lake County, CA.

7.4: Adopt proclamation designating the month of April 2015 as Alcohol Awareness Month in Lake County, CA.

7.5: Adopt proclamation designating the week of April 12-18, 2015 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week in Lake County, CA.

7.6: Adopt proclamation designating the week of April 19-25, 2015 as National Crime Victims' Rights Week in Lake County, CA.

7.7: Adopt proclamation designating the month of April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Lake County, CA.

7.8: Adopt Proclamation Designating the Month of April 2015 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Lake County, CA.

7.9: Approve advance step hiring of Jennifer DeHaan as a Deputy County Administrative Officer II at step 4 due to extraordinary qualifications.

7.10: Approve advance step hiring of Jennifer Jones as an extra help Emergency Services Coordinator at step 5 due to extraordinary qualifications.

7.11: Carried over from March 24, approval of (a) request to waive the policy for review and selection of professional consultants and other contract service providers; and (b) agreement between the County of Lake and PulsePoint Inc. for content marketing services for the Lake County Marketing Program, for a period of nine months at \$2,500/per month, and authorize the chair to sign.

7.12: Carried over from March 24, approval of (a) request to waive the policy for review and selection of professional consultants and other contract service providers; and (b) agreement between the county of Lake and Steve Denero for project management and consulting services related to destination marketing, in the amount of \$5,000/month not to exceed \$25,000 and authorize the chair to sign.

7.13: Approve renewal addendum to the warranty, support and license agreement between the county of Lake and Hart InterCivic Inc., for FY's 15/16, 16/17 & 17/18 for a total amount of \$72,601.40 and authorize the chair to sign.

7.14: Approve agreement between the county of Lake and Redwood Children's Services Inc. for Alcohol and Other Drug Perinatal Program Services for Fiscal Year 2014-15, in the amount of \$149,828, and authorize the chair to sign.

7.15: Approve fourth amendment to the agreement between the county of Lake and Willow Glen Care Center for Adult Residential Support Services for fiscal year 2014-15, a decrease of \$70,000, and authorize the chair to sign.

7.16: Approve first amendment to the agreement between the county of Lake and Ford Street Project Residential and Social Model Detoxification Services for Lake County Residents for fiscal year 2014-15, an increase of \$15,000, and authorize the chair to sign.

7.17: Approve second amendment to the agreement between the county of Lake and North Valley Behavioral Health LLC for acute psychiatric hospital services for fiscal year 2014-15, an increase of \$8,000, and authorize the chair to sign.

7.18: Adopt resolution to relinquish county road right of way to the state of California, portions abutting State Highway 20, Pyle Road (CR #309A), and Nice-Lucerne Cutoff (CR#407), and authorize the chair to sign quitclaim deed.

7.19: Adopt resolution approving the Lake County Health Services Department, Environmental Health Division's new agreement with Decade Software Co. for a 5-percent increase annually for the period of March 1, 2015, through Feb. 28, 2018, in the amount of \$22,201.44 and authorize the director of Health Services to sign.

7.20: Approve amendment three to contract between the county of Lake and Virginia Cerenio for general education teaching services not to exceed \$17,500 for the Lake County Jail and authorize the chair to sign.

7.21: Approve late travel claim for Child Welfare Services social worker Brianne Hickey, in the amount of \$128.

7.22: Approve agreement between the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways, for FY 15/16 Financial Aid Program in the amount of \$315,312 for Sheriff Marine Patrol and authorize the sheriff to execute the agreement.

7.23: Sitting as the Lake County Watershed Protection District Board of Directors, approve agreement between the Lake County Watershed Protection District and the regents of the University of California for sediment sampling in Clear Lake, in the amount of \$34,050 and authorize the chair to sign.

7.24: Adopt resolution amending Resolution No. 2014-112 establishing position allocations for fiscal year 2014-15, Budget Unit No. 2301, Jail Facilities.

7.25: Approve budget transfer in BU 8695 from account 01-11 to account 62-74, in the amount of \$40,000 for the purchase of leak detection equipment and authorize Special Districts administrator to sign purchase order.

7.26: Adopt resolution approving right of way certification for Highland Creek/Highland Springs Road Bridge Replacement Project – State Agreement No. BRLO-5914 (071), and authorize the chair to sign.

7.27: Approve minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting held March 24, 2015.

#### **TIMED ITEMS**

8.2, 9:06 a.m.: Swearing in ceremony for correctional officers April Wilson and Jessica Jones.

8.3, 9:10 a.m.: Presentation of (a) proclamation designating the week of April 6-12, 2015 as Public Health Week; (b) proclamation designating the week of April 12-18, 2015 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week; (c) proclamation designating the week of April 19-25, 2015 as National Crime Victims' Right Week; (d) proclamation designating the month of April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention Month; (e) proclamation designating the month of April 2015 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month; (f) proclamation designating the month of April 2015 as Alcohol Awareness Month.

#### **UNTIMED ITEMS**

9.2: Sitting as the Lake County Air Quality Management District Board of Directors, consideration of authorization of the APCO to sign MOU and program documents redirecting Year 15 CMP funds in the amount of \$200,000 to the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District.

9.3: Sitting as the Lake County Watershed Protection District Board of Directors, consideration of approval of proposed administrative settlement, Leon and Cheri Murders residence, 7500 Reclamation Road, Upper Lake, APN 004-021-27 .

9.4: Update on the engineering study regarding the water rights application for the Middle Creek Flood Damage Reduction and Ecosystem Restoration Project and request to have the board appoint two board members to work with staff and negotiate revisions to the Solano Decree with Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

9.5: Consideration of a) waiving the formal bidding process per Ordinance #2406, Purchasing Code No. 38.2; and b) approving the purchase of a 2015 Ford transit vehicle and authorizing the Public Works director/assistant purchasing agent to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$26,846.63.

9.6: Consideration of agreement between the county of Lake and Crowd USA, Inc. for visitor Web site redesign services for the Lake County Marketing Program.

9.7: Consideration of approval of Classification and Compensation Committee findings and recommendations for FY 2015-16.

9.8: Consideration of contract for preparation of non-water corrective action plan for the Eastlake Landfill.

9.9: Consideration of purchase of one 2015 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD pickup and authorize the Public Services Director to issue a purchase order in the amount not to exceed \$30,246.94.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

10.2: Conference with legal counsel: Existing litigation pursuant to Gov. Code Sec. 54956.9(d)(1): Rattnavong v. Lake County, et al.

10.3: Employee evaluations title: Information technology director.

**Email Elizabeth Larson at [el Larson@lakeconews.com](mailto:el Larson@lakeconews.com) . Follow her on Twitter, @ERLarson, or Lake County News, @LakeCoNews.**

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# Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District proposes new water and sewer rate structure



FRIDAY, 03 APRIL 2015 03:01 ELIZABETH LARSON

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE, Calif. – The Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District is preparing to hold public meetings this month to introduce a proposed new water and sewer rate structure that the district's general manager said is necessary in order to carry out state-required projects and update aging infrastructure.

Under the auspices of Proposition 218, the district has to hold public meetings to let the community weigh in on the rates.

The main public meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 21, at the district's administration office, 19400 Hartmann Road.

Ahead of that meeting, there will be a more informal event from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, in the Coyote Valley Elementary School multipurpose room.

District General Manager Roland Sanford said the April 7 meeting will be the opportunity for people to talk through the proposals.

"There's actually quite a few changes going on there and it's somewhat complicated," said Sanford.

Last year, the district – which has just under 2,500 customers – hired a firm, NBS, to conduct a rate study in preparation for the rate increases, Sanford said.

NBS completed the rate study about a month and a half ago. It is posted below as well as on the district's Web site, <http://www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com/2014-2015-rate-study>.

Out of the rate study has come a proposal for changing the district's rate structure, and a switch from bimonthly billing to monthly billing, which Sanford said will allow the district to keep better track of water use and detect leaks.

Sanford said what's proposed for the district is not a typical rate increase. "It's a much more complicated project," due to the rate structure changes.

The district has identified \$20 million in needed capital improvements in the water system, Sanford said.

[http://www.lakeconews.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=41237:hi...](http://www.lakeconews.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=41237:hi...) (



At the same time, he said the district has a structural deficit in its water system, meaning it isn't bringing in enough revenue to cover costs.

Part of that he attributed to the recession's impact on the community, and the fact that the district did not get the number of new hookups it had projected in a loan it had taken out in the 1990s for water system upgrades.

If adopted, over the next five years the proposed water rate increases would generate an additional \$2.8 million, Sanford said.

Sanford said the goal is that, over the next five years, a portion of those funds, along with state and federal loans, would be used to finance and complete approximately \$6.9 million of capital improvements.

On the sewer side, where there are \$15 million in needed capital improvements, if adopted, over the next five years the proposed sewer rate increases would generate an additional \$1.9 million, Sanford said.

Over the next five years the goal is to finance and complete approximately \$3.6 million in sewer system capital improvements, again using a portion of the rate increase proceeds combined with state and federal loans, according to Sanford.

#### Explaining rate structure's proposed changes

Regarding the proposed changes to the rate structure, Sanford explained that the district currently has a flat rate for residential customers that comes out to about \$74.32 bimonthly, which covers the first 3,000 cubic feet of water.

He said that customers who use less than that amount of water continue to pay for it whether they use it or not, and one of the main criticisms of the district's current structure is that there is no incentive in its rates for conserving water.

It also comes back to issues of environmental justice and water affordability. "Right now we certainly don't have a strong financial incentive," he said.

In the new tiered rate structure, the new base rate would cover 700 cubic feet of water, which is billed at the cheapest rate. Sanford said that equates to about 60 gallons of water per person per day, per capita.

Three additional tiers get progressively more expensive, Sanford said. So, while people can have landscaping, it will cost incrementally more to pay for it.

He estimated that roughly half of all customers consistently will fall in the second tier rate, which will be for 800 to 1,100 cubic feet of water per month. The third tier will be for 1,200 to 2,400 cubic feet of water monthly, with 2,400 cubic feet per month and above in the fourth tier.

Sanford said the average customer is looking at a \$54 increase in their annual water bill, or just under \$4.50 a month.

For the district's lowest 25 percent of users – who stay within 700 cubic feet of water use per month – in their first year their water bill will decline on the order of about \$40.

"This is very good for them," said Sanford.

The proposed rate structure currently shows incremental changes to the water rates, and Sanford said it would be the board's decision every year to actually implement those rate changes.

For example, in the 5/8-inch fixed meter category – the most common single family residential meter size – the current rate monthly is \$37.13. If the rate increases are approved, in fiscal year 2015-16 the base rate would roll back to \$27.54.

The base residential rates would, with board approval, then rise to \$30.57 for 2016-17; \$33.93 for 2017-18; \$36.65 for 2018-19; and \$39.58 for 2019-20.

"If you're a low water user, you'll come out ahead. If you're a big water user it will cost more," Sanford said. "It is simpler."

On the sewer side, which also is now billed bimonthly, everyone plays the same flat sewer rate of a little over \$100 bimonthly, Sanford said.

Sanford said the district wanted to provide a more equitable sewer rate structure based on actual usage. In order to look at the amount of sewage generated, Sanford said they are looking at winter water use to help them make an approximation.

So far, the bulk of concerns from ratepayers involves understanding the new rate structure, which Sanford said is part of the reason for the informal April 7 meeting.

"This is a much different approach that what has been done here ever before," and as such it requires an educational component, Sanford said.

### The capital projects list

Sanford said NBS performed the rate study by starting with a financial plan for the district and how it will address its capital projects over the next five to 10 years.

Suggesting that aging infrastructure may be the No. 1 issue affecting water nationwide, Sanford said that maintenance and upgrades can be put off for a time but, ultimately, they have to be addressed.

One of the key questions asked, Sanford said, was, "How much revenue do you need over this time horizon to operate the district and do all these things you want to do?" There also was the question of how to raise the funds needed in an equitable manner.

He said the district needed to decide if it was able to fund all of its projects up front. The short answer, he said, is no.

Then, the district had to consider if it would borrow money or pay for the projects as it went, he said.

On the water side, the district decided to fund a third of its capital expenditure needs over the next five to 10 years, leveraging the revenue from the rate increases with funds borrowed through a state revolving fund and low-interest, 30-year loans from other sources.

As for the projects the district is planning, on the sewer side, "Our biggest concern is our sewer collection system," he said. "The older system is on the order of 40 years old."

He said there are a number of cracks and leaks, with roots pushing into some pipes. When it rained heavily in early December, Sanford said the district had a "tremendous influx" of what is called "inflow and infiltration."

While the district's infrastructure held up during that heavy storm – in which there were 7 inches of rain in one day – "Admittedly, December was pretty dicey," Sanford said.

He added, "That very thoroughly tested the situation here."

Sewer capital expense projects will include refurbishing the system overall and upgrading various lift stations, Sanford said.

On the water side, Sanford said the projects will be more wide-ranging and "none of them are going to be very cheap."

Among them are system upgrades to address new government-mandated rules for handling hexavalent chromium in drinking water, which will be an expensive project to undertake, Sanford said.

In that case of that requirement, the district's choices include building new facilities and processes to remove the hexavalent chromium or dilution. He said both are expensive, with many unknowns.

The district also needs to secure its water rights. It was hit with a temporary water hookup moratorium and curtailment last year, as Lake County News reported.

Sanford said the district has to petition the State Water Resources Control Board for changes to its water rights, which he said is a fairly expensive and complicated process.

"This is a big ticket expense that we're looking at," he said.

Then there are other more general issues, including deficiencies on the water side resulting from marginal water pressure in some parts of the district, Sanford said.

Sanford said the district will address those matters by upgrading water tanks and fire hydrants.

The district also has as a goal expanding its investment in solar power capability on the water side, like it has done for its water reclamation plant operations.

"It's been very successful on the sewer side," said Sanford, noting that it's done wonders for blunting the district's power expenses.

"Right now electricity is our second-largest expense," Sanford said.

**Email Elizabeth Larson at [elarson@lakeconews.com](mailto:elarson@lakeconews.com) . Follow her on Twitter, @ERLarson, or Lake County News, @LakeCoNews.**

[HVCSD Final Report 3/23/15\(1\)](#)

## Planning commission puts proposed water pipeline on hold

By Eli Nymeyer, Record-Bee staff

record-bee.com

Lakeport >> With debate lasting well past the allotted timeframe, the first item on the Lake County Planning Commission's Thursday agenda ended up back on the drawing board.

The item up before the commission was a proposal by special districts to pipe water to the unincorporated area of south Lakeport along Soda Bay Road over some 5 miles from the Big Valley aquifer and the wells of the Kelseyville water district. The topic spurred lengthy commentary between the concerned public and representatives of Lake County Special Districts.

All of the public commentators were opposed to the idea.

The two main concerns brought up by the public, mostly composed of residents of Kelseyville, dealt with the availability of water within the aquifer and the potential risks to future growth the extra load may cause, and the lack of information provided in the Initial Study of the project on an alternative option proposed that would establish two new wells and appropriate equipment to supply water to the area instead of tapping into the Kelseyville water sources.

It was suggested by numerous people, including a representative of the city, that Lakeport and the county should consider annexing that area into the city proper, which would enable the city to then provide water through the city's water system directly to that area — a suggestion that went unaddressed by the planning commission.

The planning commission did, however, concur with the public's assessment that more information needed to be provided within the Initial Study before they felt comfortable approving the proposal to be passed on the Board of Supervisors for consideration. A motion was passed with all five commission members voting in favor of having special districts redraft the documents to include more extensive information on the financial and ecological impacts on the well option, information that was either vague within the originally document or left out entirely.

Special districts estimated it would take them around six weeks to prepare the revised documents and make it available to the public. The commission also instructed special districts to make more effort within the Kelseyville community to raise awareness about the proposal and its potential ramifications for that community, with a specific note to meet with the Kelseyville Business Association as soon as possible.

Advertisement

# WATER: Sierra Nevada snowpack virtually gone; water content lowest since 1950

THURSDAY, 02 APRIL 2015 01:22 LAKE COUNTY NEWS REPORTS



**California's Sierra snowpack was bare during the fourth snow survey of the season at the Phillips snow course near Lake Tahoe on Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Photo courtesy of the California Department of Water Resources.**

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA – The California Department of Water Resources found no snow whatsoever on Wednesday during its manual survey for the media at 6,800 feet in the Sierra Nevada.

This was the first time in 75 years of early-April measurements at the Phillips snow course that no snow was found there.

Gov. Jerry Brown observed the survey, which confirmed electronic readings showing the statewide snowpack with less water content on Wednesday than any April 1 since 1950.

Attending the survey with Gov. Brown was DWR Director Mark Cowin, who said Californians can expect to receive almost no water from the meager snowpack as it melts in the coming weeks.

"Today's survey underscores the severity of California's drought," he said. "Water conservation must become a way of life during the worst drought in most Californians' lifetimes."

Wednesday's readings are historically significant, since the snowpack traditionally is at its peak by early April before it begins to melt.

Electronic readings on Wednesday found that the statewide snowpack holds only 1.4 inches of water content, just 5 percent of the historical average of 28.3 inches for April 1. The previous low for the date was 25 percent in 2014 and 1977.

The Phillips snow course, which has been surveyed since 1941, has averaged 66.5 inches in early-April measurements there.

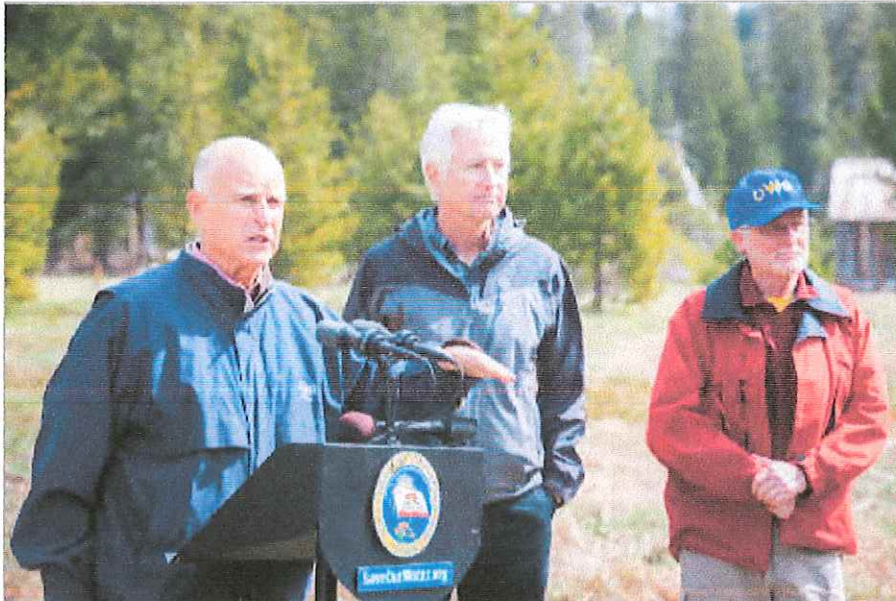
Four years ago Wednesday, the measured depth at Phillips was 124.4 inches. The deepest April 1 Phillips

measurement was 150.7 inches in 1983, and the lowest previously was 1.04 inches in 1988.

Electronic readings indicate the water content of the northern Sierra snowpack on Wednesday was 1.4 inches, 5 percent of average for the date. The central and southern Sierra readings were 1.5 inches (5 percent of average) and 1.3 inches (5 percent) respectively.

Wednesday's manual survey was the fourth of the season conducted for the news media at the Phillips snow course just off Highway 50 near Sierra at Tahoe Road 90 miles east of Sacramento.

When DWR conducted the first three manual surveys on December 30, January 29 and March 3, the statewide water content in the snowpack was 50 percent, 25 percent and 19 percent, respectively, of the historical averages for those dates.



**Gov. Jerry Brown and California Department of Water Resources officials discuss the results of the fourth snow survey of the season at the Phillips snow course near Lake Tahoe on Wednesday, April 1, 2015. Photo courtesy of the California Department of Water Resources.**

The decline reflects California's significantly lower precipitation and the warming trend that made this winter the warmest in the state's recorded history. What precipitation there was fell mostly as rain due to warmer temperatures.

In what were considered normal precipitation years, the snowpack supplied about 30 percent of California's water needs as it melts in the spring and summer. The greater the snowpack water content, the greater the likelihood California's reservoirs will receive ample runoff as the snowpack melts to meet the state's water demand in the summer and fall.

Little precipitation has fallen in Northern California since early February.

The eight weather stations there that have been monitored for generations have recorded 31.7 inches since the beginning of Water Year 2015 on October 1. That is 76 percent of the historical average for April 1.

Further south, the five-station San Joaquin index has recorded 13.7 inches, 41 percent of normal for today's date, and the six-station index in the Tulare Basin is similarly far below normal – 10.3 inches, or 42 percent of the April 1 average there.

California's historically wettest winter months have already passed, and the drought is now firmly rooted in its fourth consecutive year.

The major water supply reservoirs are storing more water this year than last but are still far below the historical average for early March.

Lake Oroville in Butte County, the State Water Project's principal reservoir, now holds 51 percent of its 3.5 million acre-foot capacity (67 percent of its historical average for the date).

Shasta Lake north of Redding and the federal Central Valley Project's largest reservoir, is at 59 percent of its 4.5 million acre-foot capacity (73 percent of its historic average).

San Luis Reservoir, which serves both the SWP and CVP, holds much more water than it did one year ago due to recent water deliveries to the reservoir as a component of the agencies' drought management strategy.

San Luis holds 66 percent of its 2 million acre-foot capacity (73 percent of normal for the date).



**On April 1, 2014, snow was falling at the Phillips snow course near Lake Tahoe. Photo courtesy of the California Department of Water Resources.**





## California governor orders mandatory water restrictions

**BY FENIT NIRAPPIL ASSOCIATED PRESS on April 1, 2015, 11:47AM04/01/2015 Updated 11 minutes ago.**

ECHO LAKE — Gov. Jerry Brown ordered state officials Wednesday to impose mandatory water restrictions for the first time in history as the state grapples with a fourth year of drought.

In an executive order, Brown ordered the state water board to implement measures in cities and towns that cut usage by 25 percent.

“We’re in a historic drought and that demands unprecedented action,” Brown said at a news conference in the Sierra Nevada, where dry, brown grass surrounded a site that normally would be snow-covered at this time of year. “We have to pull together and save water in every way we can.”

The move will affect residents, businesses, farmers and other users.

The Sonoma County Water Agency, which delivers Russian River water to 600,000 customers in Sonoma and Marin counties, will aim for a 25 percent reduction by the end of the year, said Brad Sherwood, the agency’s spokesman.

“Our community has shown exceptional ability to respond to the drought,” he said, noting that the region’s average individual water use dropped from 128 gallons a day in 2013 to 110 gallons a day in 2014.

Reducing outdoor irrigation will be a key part of meeting the new state order, Sherwood said. The Water Agency is preparing to recommend that residents limit outdoor watering to no more than three days a week, he said.

The agency’s nine contractors, including the city of Santa Rosa, are responsible for setting specific conservation measures.

The agency is also preparing to ask the state for renewed permission to reduce the release of water from Lake Mendocino, a step aimed at conserving water supplies for users along the upper Russian River, Sherwood said.

Lake Mendocino near Ukiah and Lake Sonoma near Healdsburg are both “near average” for this time of year. Lake Mendocino is at 58 percent of capacity, with Lake Sonoma at 88 percent.

Brown’s order will require campuses, golf courses, cemeteries and other large landscapes to significantly cut water use; order local governments to replace 50 million square feet of lawns on throughout the state with drought-tolerant landscaping; and create a temporary rebate program for consumers who replace old water-sucking appliances with more efficient ones.

The 25 percent cut is in relation to total water use in the state in 2013, before the drought began, the New York Times reported Wednesday. It would vary from community to community reflecting the fact that some areas of the state have done a better job in reducing water consumption.

The Sierra snowpack, source of 30 percent of the state's water for farms and cities, is at an all-time-low 8 percent of normal, the only single-digit figure in 65 years of measuring the snowpack.

There was no snow at the site of the Department of Water Resources' snow survey Wednesday at a spot in the Sierra where the historical average snow depth on April 1, when the snowpack typically reaches its peak, is 66.5 inches.

Staff Writer Guy Kovner contributed to this report.





## Herdt: Conserve water, but don't panic yet

**BY TIMM HERDT** TIMM HERDT IS A COLUMNIST FOR THE VENTURA COUNTY STAR. on March 30, 2015, 12:01AM03/30/2015

Californians are starting to freak out about the drought.

That was evident when Gov. Jerry Brown held a news conference this month to announce a relatively modest drought-relief effort that consists principally of appropriating money from last fall's statewide water bond a few months earlier than it otherwise would have been.

News reporters are not always the best gauge of public sentiment, but when Brown began entertaining questions, they came in rapid fire, each one a variation on the same theme. Why aren't you doing more? When are you going to order mandatory conservation measures? Isn't it time to go into crisis mode?

In this case, polling indicates the reporters may have been accurately reflecting the concerns of their audiences. A December survey by the Public Policy Institute of California found that 60 percent of state residents believe water supply is a "big problem" and that state and local governments aren't doing enough to deal with the drought.

Those percentages would certainly be higher now, following the driest January on record in Northern California and the most meager measurement ever of the March snowpack in the Sierra.

From a historic standpoint, this drought is indeed severe, even unprecedented in modern times in terms of consecutive years with very sparse precipitation. But there were consecutive years in the mid-1970s that were nearly as dry, and in the six-year period from 1987 through 1994 there were five years in which statewide precipitation was significantly below normal.

One thing that seems to be different in the public reaction this time is that, despite constant warnings from scientists not to assign the cause of a single event to climate change, many seem to fear that global warming has consigned California to a condition of permanent drought.

In fact, climate scientists do not specifically share that concern.

In a 2013 summary of climate-change modeling conducted by scientists around the world, UC San Diego's Scripps Institute of Oceanography assessed the most serious predicted effects on California. Its report cited sea-level rise, more numerous wildfires, a diminishing mountain snowpack and more frequent heat waves in Southern California.

As for the effects on rainfall, the long-range forecasts of climate change models are not so dire. The report notes the models generally suggest somewhat wetter conditions lie ahead for Northern California and somewhat drier conditions in the southernmost segments of the state.

In short, there is no scientific basis for anyone to fear that California is going to dry up and blow away as a result of climate change.

However, if Californians are indeed beginning to freak out about the drought, that is not a bad thing. It could inspire the most important short-term response to the drought, one that is largely beyond the power of state and local governments — a widespread ethic of water conservation.

As Senate Republic leader Bob Huff said at the governor's news conference, the most important short-term response to the drought is for Californians to develop a sense of personal responsibility.

The challenge for governments and water managers is to come up with long-term solutions that allow water policy to adapt to the effects of climate change.

If, as the modeling suggests, the snowpack is going to be reduced by 50 percent or more, management of existing storage systems must adapt and new storage must be designed to capture winter rainfall rather than spring runoff.

The modeling also predicts the rainy season will become more condensed and storm events will become more intense. If that's the case, it will become imperative that systems be designed to capture water that now runs off in floods and to allow exports from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to be maximized during brief periods of true surplus.

The capturing of urban stormwater will become more important, as will the development of flood basins that will allow surging water to be spread over low-lying areas so that it can recharge groundwater.

As Brown noted last week, these long-term adaptations will take time. "When you're piloting a huge battleship," he said, "it turns slowly in the water."

In the short term, if the drought extends for a fifth year or beyond, freaking out may become a more rational response.

"If the drought continues," Brown said, "there will be a building sense of emergency."

The best advice for now: Be smart, but don't panic.

Climate-change scientists are not suggesting it will never again rain in California. But not one is smart enough to say when the rain will be turned back on.

*Timm Herdt is a columnist for the Ventura County Star.*

## Groundwater Sustainability Act discussed by Lake County BOS

By J.W. Burch IV, [jburch@record-bee.com](mailto:jburch@record-bee.com), @JWBurchIV on Twitter

record-  
bee.com

LAKEPORT >> For the first time in California's history, the state is working to regulate its groundwater through a three-bill package. The potential impact of a the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act on Lake County led to a nearly hour-long discussion during Tuesday's Board of Supervisor's meeting.

"The reality is California, and maybe one or two other states, is one of the last remaining states where the state isn't completely hands on regulating groundwater," District 4 Supervisor Anthony Farrington observed.

The legislation sets priorities for groundwater basins that are currently overdrafted and sets a timeline for implementation. The timeline consists of local groundwater management agencies being identified by 2017. Overdrafted groundwater basins must have a sustainability plan by 2020; high and medium priority basins not currently overdrafted will need sustainability plans in place by 2022 and all high and medium priority basins target achieving sustainability by 2040.

Lake County has two medium priority groundwater basins, Lake County Water Resources Director Scott De Leon told the board. Neither of these are overdrafted. B

"There are other basins in the county and about 90 percent of the county that is not in a recognized basin," De Leon explained.

The creation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) is the first step in the process, De Leon continued. After the agency is established, a plan can be developed.

"As a county you can go to the state and request an alternative, and it is basically an exemption from the creation of a plan by demonstrating that you have been managing your resource effectively, or that the efforts you have been putting forward are sufficient in the state's eyes as a management plan," De Leon asserted.

As county governments and agencies in Northern California study the legislation, concerns have arisen over the direction water will flow. Groundwater provides, on average, 40 percent of agricultural and urban water use in the state, annually. This percentage increases during drought years, approaching 60 percent. Some areas depend entirely on groundwater.

"I want to make sure our interests are protected," District 5 Supervisor Rob Brown said. "Sacramento already knows what they are intending to do ... which is to protect water for Southern California."

Advertisement

District 3 Supervisor Jim Steele said he doesn't think the state "will come in on top of us."

"I'm not sure we're the big prize, Central Valley is the prize," Steele said, "because it is the Central Valley that is truly in a crisis situation."

"They are going to be looking north to come up and take what they can from us, so it does affect us." Brown retorted.

During public comment, Upper Lake resident Betsy Cawn said that up to four feet of subsidence has occurred at Scott Valley Creek, resulting from freeway grade increases in the late 1960s.

Additionally, Cawn suggested all stakeholders and groundwater basin managers be involved in the process.

"A lot of agencies were talked about in terms of who is participating in this process, but one thing that wasn't mentioned was the public," Mike Dunlap, of Clearlake Oaks, agreed. "There are specific requirements for some of these agencies to involve the public, I would like to see that done."

The California Department of Water Resources issued a draft strategic plan for state and local agencies. The draft plan explains the California Department of Water Resources' responsibilities in implementing the law. The hope is that community, agency and personal perspectives will add to the analysis of the law as it comes into place.

"We will be bringing these type of discussions back, the public will be a strong participant in this," Farrington said.

No action was required by the board, as the discussion was for informational purposes.

*Contact J. W. Burch, IV at 900-2022.*

# Supervisors to discuss groundwater management act



MONDAY, 23 MARCH 2015 00:01 ELIZABETH LARSON

LAKEPORT, Calif. – The Board of Supervisors this week will discuss with staff how to move forward with meeting new state requirements regarding groundwater management.

The board will meet beginning at 9 a.m. Tuesday, March 24, in the board chambers on the first floor of the Lake County Courthouse, 255 N. Forbes St., Lakeport.

The meeting can be watched live on Channel 8 with the video available online at [http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/Board\\_of\\_Supervisors/calendar.htm](http://www.co.lake.ca.us/Government/Boards/Board_of_Supervisors/calendar.htm) . Accompanying board documents and the agenda also are available at that link.

At 9:15 a.m. County Counsel Anita Grant will take to the board a discussion of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

The act is a three-bill legislative package signed by Gov. Jerry Brown last September which, according to the Governor's Office, creates "a framework for sustainable, local groundwater management for the first time in California history. The legislation allows local agencies to tailor sustainable groundwater plans to their regional economic and environmental needs."

According to Grant's report, the legislation prioritizes groundwater basins that are currently overdrafted and sets a following timeline for implementation: 2017, local groundwater management agencies must be identified; 2020, overdrafted groundwater basins must have sustainability plans; 2022, other high and medium priority basins not currently in overdraft must have sustainability plans; and 2040, all high and medium priority groundwater basins must achieve sustainability.

The legislation authorizes local agencies to become a groundwater sustainability agency. A county within which an area unmanaged by a groundwater sustainability agency lies is presumed to be the groundwater sustainability agency for that area, Grant's report said.

The California Department of Water Resources and the State Water Resources Control Board are allowed to intervene when local agencies have not moved forward to sustainably manage their groundwater resources, Grant said.

"Given that by January 1, 2017, local agencies with high and medium priority groundwater basins must identify their governance structure for those groundwater basins, the Board of Supervisors may wish to direct staff to begin formulating a timeline and a strategy for moving forward," Grant wrote to the board.

Also on Tuesday, at 9:45 a.m. the board will get a presentation and update on the county's destination marketing efforts.

The full agenda follows.

## CONSENT AGENDA

7.1: Approve minutes of the Board of Supervisors meeting held Feb. 3, 2015.

7.2: Approve first amendment to agreement between the county of Lake and Breezy Bill Pay & Errands for Janitorial Services commencing 7/1/2014 and shall terminate upon the move of DCSS from 525 N. Main St., Lakeport, CA 95453, or Dec. 31, 2015, whichever occurs first, for an amount not to exceed \$24,000.

7.3: Adopt resolution amending Resolution No. 2014-112 establishing position allocations for fiscal year 2014-2015, Budget Unit No. 4012, Health Services Administration to be effective Feb. 11, 2015.

- 7.4: Adopt resolution establishing county-maintained mileage for 2014 and authorization for the chair to sign.
- 7.5: Sitting as Lake County Sanitation District Board of Directors, approve easement deed for sewer mainline extension, APN 004-002-23/10375 Elk Mountain Road, Upper Lake.
- 7.6: Waive 900-hour limit for Sheriff Marine Patrol staff members, Dane Hayward, Dennis Ostini, Lloyd Wells; Sheriff Court Security staff members James Everhart, Hart Gall, Mike Powers, Duayne Emis; and sheriff jail staff members Terry Norton and June Waller.
- 7.7: Approve late travel claim and waiver of county policy for Correctional Officer Anthony Bracisco in the amount of \$1,187.31.
- 7.8: Approve purchase of a temporary construction easement and fee title on a portion of a certain parcel (APN 008-020-25) as part of bridge replacement projects on Ackley Road, in the amount of \$3,100 and authorize the County Administrative Officer to execute the necessary documents.
- 7.9: Approve purchase of a temporary construction easement and fee title on a portion of a certain parcel (APN 008-020-05) as part of bridge replacement projects on Ackley Road, in the amount of \$4,700 and authorize the county administrative officer to execute the necessary documents.
- 7.10: Approve purchase of a temporary construction easement and fee title on a portion of a certain parcel (APN 008-020-50) as part of bridge replacement projects on Ackley Road, in the amount of \$4,300 and authorize the county administrative officer to execute the necessary documents.
- 7.11: Approve purchase of a temporary construction easement and fee title on a portion of a certain parcel (APN 007-006-24) as part of the bridge replacement project on Highland Springs Road, in the amount of \$8,100 and authorize the county administrative officer to execute the necessary documents.
- 7.12: Sitting as the Lake County Watershed Protection District, adopt resolution declaring surplus certain real property (APN 007-006-24) valued at less than \$25,000 and authorizing its sale to the county of Lake.
- 7.13: Adopt resolution approving an agreement for the purchase of right-of-way (APN 008-020-23) for the Manning Creek Bridge Project and authorizing the chair to execute the purchase agreement on behalf of the county of Lake.
- 7.14: Approve budget transfer in BU 2709 from account 38-00 to account 62-71, in the amount of \$6,000 for the purchase of an HP LaserJet Enterprise M806 Printer.

#### TIMED ITEMS

- 8.2, 9:06 a.m.: Consideration of (a) request to waive the policy for review and selection of professional consultants and other contract service providers; and (b) approval an agreement with Oscar Larson & Associates for Department of Energy Grant Program consulting services and authorize chair to sign the agreement.
- 8.3, 9:15 a.m.: Discussion surrounding the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
- 8.4, 9:45 a.m.: Lake County destination marketing presentation and update.

#### UNTIMED ITEMS

- 9.2: Consideration of agreement between the county of Lake and PulsePoint Inc. for content marketing services for the Lake County Marketing Program.
- 9.3: Consideration of agreement between the county of Lake and Steve Denero for project management and consulting services related to destination marketing.
- 9.4: Consideration of staff's recommendation to approve the authorization to order Calnet3 services under the

statewide contract.

9.5: Consideration of request for bid approval for the purchase of five Utility Police Interceptors from Ukiah Ford and to waive the normal sealed bid process.

9.6: Consideration of request for bid approval for the purchase of six Sedan Police Interceptors from Ukiah Ford and to waive the normal sealed bid process.

9.7: Consideration of (a) request for bid approval for the purchase of seven Ford Taurus' from Ukiah Ford and to waive the normal sealed bid process; and (b) resolution to cancel reserves in BU 2216 and appropriate \$27,000 for purchase of vehicles.

9.8: Consideration of resolution to amend position allocation for BU 2602 for the Code Enforcement Program and consideration of resolution to amend the FY 2014/15 adopted budget to appropriate additional money for code enforcement positions.

**Email Elizabeth Larson at [elarson@lakeconews.com](mailto:elarson@lakeconews.com) . Follow her on Twitter, @ERLarson, or Lake County News, @LakeCoNews.**

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# Sonoma County gets set to study groundwater regulations







## Sonoma County gets set to study groundwater regulations

BY ANGELA HART THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on March 21, 2015, 10:23PM03/21/2015

When Gov. Jerry Brown in September signed a package of three bills designed to curb overpumping of water from underground aquifers, the historic legislation sent fear and panic throughout Sonoma County. Residents who depend on underground wells as their primary source of water contacted county officials to ask how the laws would affect them, and farmers whose operations require a steady supply of water lobbied hard to be included in conversations about restrictions going forward.

County water officials and supervisors heard concerns about mandatory groundwater monitoring and rationing, and fielded questions about fines and penalties associated with pumping.

Sonoma County this week unveiled its first formal response to a wave of queries over the past six months about how California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which establishes the first rules for pumping groundwater in the Golden State, would affect property owners and agriculture.

"Monitoring and conserving groundwater is no longer going to be voluntary," said Jay Jasperse, chief engineer and director of groundwater management for the Sonoma County Water Agency. "Some people were saying they're mad, that it infringes on private property rights and water rights, but on the other hand, we've also heard from people who are saying it's about time to regulate groundwater."

Between now and June 2017, Sonoma County must form a local agency to develop and oversee plans for achieving sustainable groundwater levels in each of the county's 14 underground basins.

Three of the aquifers — the Santa Rosa Plain, the Sonoma Valley and the Petaluma Valley basins — have been singled out by state water officials as among 127 statewide that are in danger of being depleted. That creates the possibility of saltwater intrusion into freshwater; sinking land; and permanent losses of water storage capacity underground in the county's three largest basins, which double as major population centers.

California's drought, now in its fourth year, is exacerbating groundwater depletion. Residential users and farmers increasingly are being forced to rely on underground reserves as surface supplies dwindle. County water officials say that during drought years, 60 percent of the state's water supply comes from underground reserves.

"There are a lot of pressures on these aquifers," Jasperse said. "We're worried about them becoming severely depleted; they're very vulnerable."

Sonoma County has seven years to figure out how to prevent permanent damage to its underground basins, and if they aren't healthy by 2042, the state can step in and take over, imposing steep fines, shutting down wells and relegating local control.

Meanwhile, the county is in the beginning stages of developing a local plan to monitor and manage groundwater supplies, focusing on recharge and conservation.

Supervisors on Tuesday launched a two-year plan to gather input from cities, agricultural users, environmental groups and property owners. Local government agencies, in charge of land use and water supplies, said they'll use that input to come up with future groundwater policies. Those could include registering and monitoring wells, setting minimum distances between new wells, requiring users to report how much water is being pumped and imposing fees on property owners to fund groundwater recharge and conservation projects.

The regulations come as California develops sweeping new rules in an attempt to adapt to future water shortages. Brown, with state legislators, on Thursday introduced a \$1 billion drought relief package aimed at fast-tracking water infrastructure projects that could encourage development of desalination and recycled water systems. Days before, the State Water Board imposed restrictions on residential water use.

Ellen Hanak, an expert with the Public Policy Institute of California who specializes in natural resources management and water, said the measures are pressing. She said previously, the absence of groundwater regulation encouraged overpumping, and people across the state are feeling the impacts.

"Drought conditions have made this groundwater legislation more urgent," she said. "There's no question that people are turning to groundwater because there is less surface water available, and as a result, water tables are dropping."

Supervisors acknowledged concerns from landowners and farmers concerned about losing private property rights, and from environmental groups who say regulating groundwater is far overdue. Despite differing views, supervisors said the county should embrace new state rules.

"This is a whole new world," said Supervisor David Rabbitt, who represents Sonoma County on various water policy-making bodies. "Our entire water system — surface water and groundwater — is tied together, so looking at them individually does not make sense."

Supervisors on Tuesday authorized \$155,000 to pay for consulting and public outreach.

Pete Parkinson, who ran the county's Permit and Resource Management Department for 11 years, is being paid \$115,000 to work with stakeholders during the first phase of the new groundwater laws, which require counties to develop a so-called groundwater sustainability agency. Parkinson is tasked with gathering input from agriculture groups, city councils and environmental activists.

Jasperse said Parkinson was hired because of his extensive work on county land use and water issues over his 17 years as a county planner.

"This is a very modest first step," Jasperse said. "But we're trying to be sensitive and inclusive."

The county's plan, unveiled at a Board of Supervisors meeting this week, builds on local efforts to measure groundwater levels in three of the county's biggest aquifers. Studies from the U.S. Geological Survey show problems with overpumping, Jasperse said.

In Sonoma Valley, saltwater is seeping into underground reservoirs and land is sinking. The Santa Rosa Plain also has problems, including depleted reservoir levels, and early evidence shows that in Petaluma Valley, groundwater levels are also sinking. Those issues are likely to spread as the drought persists, county water officials said.

“The brunt of the problem is underground, but we’re also seeing more pumping leading to declining surface levels,” Jasperse said.

Jasperse and other water experts said other underground aquifers, such as the Alexander Valley reservoir, could face future restrictions if the drought and overpumping continue.

Supervisor James Gore, who worked at a federal agency that specializes in collaborating with farmers on natural resource projects, said he is looking forward to working with critics of the new state laws, including the Sonoma County Farm Bureau.

“This is the most important water legislation we’ve seen in 100 years — it’s huge,” Gore said. “We have drought, coupled with unsustainable water use, so we need to do something before we run our landscape dry.”

Gore said he plans to work with his board colleagues and Water Agency officials to come up with plans to conserve water conservation and recharge projects — by flooding lands surrounding the bank of the Russian River, for example, to replenish underground reserves. County officials said the cost of those projects could be paid for by assessing fees on property owners and with state grants.

Jane Nielson, co-founder of the Sonoma County Water Coalition, said the county should pursue more aggressive conservation programs.

“We have to start worrying about what’s going to happen if this drought continues,” Nielson said.

Tito Sasaki, president of the 3,000-member Farm Bureau, which opposed Brown’s legislation, said his primary concern is formation of the local agency to implement the new rules.

“Whichever agency is in control is going to have wide powers to police, tax and regulate groundwater, so although we are worried about restrictions, we think the decisions being made right now are very important,” Sasaki said. “We have always believed that groundwater comes with the property, so if I own the property, it’s my groundwater. But that’s no longer true. We’re preparing to live in this new era.”

You can reach Staff Writer Angela Hart at 526-8503 or [angela.hart@pressdemocrat.com](mailto:angela.hart@pressdemocrat.com). On Twitter [@ahartreports](https://twitter.com/ahartreports).

# Poll: 82 percent of Californians say residents should conserve water – drought or no drought

THURSDAY, 19 MARCH 2015 22:51 LAKE COUNTY NEWS REPORTS

As California enters a fourth year of drought, a new statewide poll reveals that the vast majority of Californians – some 90 percent – are willing to make significant changes to conserve water both inside and out.

In addition, more than 80 percent believe it's important to conserve water regardless of whether the state is in drought or whether conservation is mandated by local water agencies.

The statewide poll of 801 registered voters – commissioned by the Association of California Water Agencies in partnership with the statewide conservation education program Save Our Water – also found that more than 80 percent of Californians view the drought and water shortages as “extremely” or “very” serious problems.

Some 86 percent of polled residents believe that California is in a state of persistent water shortage.

The polling also indicates that Californians nearly universally agree that the drought is the most pressing problem facing the state and is more concerning than the economy, education, health care costs and taxes.

“California is indeed a dry state that can expect to see persistent droughts in its future. This polling underscores the fact that a vast majority of Californians understand this new normal,” said ACWA Executive Director Timothy Quinn. “But the poll also shows that an overwhelming majority of Californians are willing to significantly change their water usage whether we are in a drought or not. This is a sea change in public opinion and bodes well for our future.”

Mark Cowin, director of the Department of Water Resources, noted that the poll indicates over three-quarters of Californians have been getting the message about the state's ongoing drought. DWR is a partner with ACWA in the Save Our Water program.

“Clearly, Californians understand the magnitude of this drought,” said Cowin. “Just as important, they understand that they can help California cope through the collective power of individual actions. If we all shut off sprinklers, make the effort to fix a leak, and urge friends and neighbors to do the same, it will make a difference.”

The poll of registered voters was conducted Feb. 22 to March 1 by the polling firm Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz & Associates, or FM3.

Its findings arrive as the State Water Resources Control Board prepares to act on proposed new emergency water conservation regulations today and extend existing ones as the state remains locked in a grinding fourth year of drought.

The Sierra snowpack is at record low levels and January was among the driest months on record.

“This poll's findings stand out among our many years of tracking water issues in California,” said Dave Metz, principal and president of FM3. “We've never seen such a huge majority recognize the severity of the water crisis as well as such a large group that views the water problems as ongoing and warranting continued conservation.”

Metz noted that 83 percent of those polled said conserving water is “extremely” or “very” important whether or not water agencies are requiring water conservation, suggesting that for Californians “conserving water has become more of a core value than simply a reaction to regulations, restrictions or other external factors.”

A summary of the poll's findings can be found below.



## Gov. Brown proposes \$1 billion in drought spending

BY FENIT NIRAPPIL ASSOCIATED PRESS on March 19, 2015, 10:57AM03/19/2015

Updated 2 hours ago.

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Jerry Brown and legislative leaders on Thursday proposed legislation to accelerate more than \$1 billion in drought-relief spending for California as it copes with a fourth dry year and Brown urges residents to reduce water use.

"We need to get the money out the door now for shovel-ready projects and existing water programs that only need funding to get started," Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de Leon said. "No delay. No red tape."

Brown said the proposal accelerates spending that voters have already approved for water and flood projects, including last year's \$7.5 billion bond measure.

The package of two bills would provide some funding for immediate aid to communities facing dire water shortages and unemployment.

It includes \$272 million for safe drinking water and water recycling and \$128 million for direct assistance to the hardest-hit workers and communities. It also accelerates \$660 million in spending for flood protection in urban and rural areas.

Brown said the drought has highlighted fundamental questions about how the state uses water and will require Californians to adopt innovative solutions.

"Growing a walnut or an almond takes water. Having a new house with a bunch of toilets and showers takes water," Brown said. "So how do we balance use and efficiency with the kind of life that people want in California?"

The measures will need majority approval from the state Legislature which is controlled by Democrats. Republican legislative leaders joined Brown at a news conference Thursday but were not involved in negotiating the deal.

Such spending is normally approved as part of budget negotiations that last through June, but de Leon said California cannot wait until then.

"Congress hasn't pitched in a penny so far," he added.

Although the plan is labeled as emergency legislation, much of the funding has been available to the state for years. Some of the projects that will benefit could take more than a year before there is a noticeable increase in water supplies.

The water in the Sierra Nevada snowpack — California's largest water source — is far below normal. Winter is normally California's rainy season, but it's drawing to an end without significant storms to replenish reservoirs.

Continuing dry conditions drove state water regulators to ramp up mandatory water restrictions this week that prevent Californians from watering their lawns daily and require that customers ask for water at restaurants rather than having it automatically served. Critics have questioned whether the measures go far enough given the severity of the drought.

"Everyone in the state has to ask the question, 'How can I conserve more water?' You can't count on the government; we're doing our part but really it comes down to personal responsibility and cutting back our consumption," said Senate Minority Leader Bob Huff, R-Diamond Bar.

The proposals came a year after Brown signed a \$687 million drought-relief package, most of which went to accelerate water infrastructure projects. A third of that funding has still not been allocated and the Department of Water Resources has not yet recommended how the money should be spent.

That package provided 100,000 households with boxes from food banks and rental assistance to 2,000 farm workers, according to figures provided in September by the Department of Social Services and the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Local water agencies were awarded \$221 million in October for projects that ranged from boosting water recycling to creating new wells and fixing leaks.

DROUGHT

# Saving water made mandatory

## Restrictions targeting lawns, hotels, restaurants start April 15

By Paul Rogers

San Jose Mercury News

**SACRAMENTO** » Acknowledging that California's water conservation efforts are falling short as the state descends into a fourth year of punishing drought, the administration of Gov. Jerry Brown on Tuesday imposed new man-

datory water conservation rules that will affect millions of people, from homeowners water their lawns to how restaurants and hotels serve their guests.

"There have been some heroic efforts that people have taken, but we are not seeing the efforts to step up and ring the alarm bells that the situation warrants," said

Felicia Marcus, chairwoman of the State Water Resources Control Board, which approved the measures in Sacramento.

"We're going to need to go further if it doesn't rain," she added.

But violations of the rules, which carry fines of up to \$500, will be left up to local cities, counties and water districts. And so

far, very few have fine residents for wasting water.

Critics called the rules, which take effect April 15, a step in the right direction. But they said they are insufficient without more enforcement to avoid water shortages if the drought drags on beyond this summer.

"At this point we are failing. We are not meeting our goals," said Conner Everts, with the California Environmental Water Cau-

cus, a nonprofit group. "At what point do we accept that this might be the fourth year of a 10-year drought — and plan for that?"

The past three years have been the driest three-year period in California history dating back to the Gold Rush. On Tuesday, the Sierra snowpack was at 13 percent of the historic average and many of the state's largest reservoirs were far below normal. And

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# Drought

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was the hottest year in recorded history in California and around the globe.

In January 2014, the governor declared a statewide drought emergency and asked Californians to cut water use by 20 percent voluntarily. But the state's urban and suburban residents have fallen short of that goal, cutting water use by only 9.7 percent between June and January, compared with the prior year.

Specifically, the rules adopted Tuesday:

Ban all restaurants, bars, hotels and other places where food and drink are served and purchased in California from serving water unless customers ask for it.

Require all hotels and motels to provide signs in rooms telling guests that they have the option of choosing not to have towels and linens washed daily.

Ban anyone in the state from watering lawns and other outdoor landscaping with potable water within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.

Require cities, counties, water districts and private companies to limit lawn watering to two days a week if they aren't already limiting lawn and landscape watering to a certain number of days a week. The rule applies to all 411 water providers with more than 3,000 customers in California, who serve more than 95 percent of the state's population. But there is a loophole: If water providers are already limiting days of the week, even if it is to three or more days, they can continue with those rules and not go to two days a week.

The lawn-watering provisions are expected to have the most impact.

Outdoor irrigation makes up 44 percent of all water use in California's urban and suburban communities, according to the state water board, or 3.9 million acre feet out of 8.8 million total. Another 31 percent is for indoor res-

idential use, such as toilets, showers and washing machines. And 19 percent is used by commercial, industrial and government entities, such as schools, colleges and prisons.

In the Bay Area, some water providers are already limiting lawn watering days. Customers of East Bay Municipal Utility District, for example, which provides water to 1.3 million people in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, are limited to two days of lawn watering a week, although which days are not specified.

And there is no enforcement. The district has a hotline to report violations, and it calls or sends emails to violators, but there is no ordinance on its books to allow the agency to issue fines, said district spokeswoman Abby Figueroa.

That could change starting April 14, when the district will consider tougher rules. Those will include "excessive use" fees for residents who use considerably more water than the community average, and perhaps sending staff members out to do enforcement.

In Santa Clara County, lawn watering rules vary widely.

San Jose Water Company, which provides water to 1 million residents, limits outdoor watering to odd-even days, where people whose addresses end in even numbers are allowed to water on even dates and those with addresses ending in odd numbers are allowed to water only on odd-numbered dates. But the company is not issuing fines for violators.

Morgan Hill and Gilroy allow watering only one day a week from November through March, and three days a week from April through October.

Milpitas allows two days a week. Sunnyvale, Santa Clara and people served by San Jose's city water department, do not have days-of-the-week restrictions.

The rules passed Tuesday also require water providers to promptly notify any property owner when they discover a leak on the

property. And they mandate that water providers report every month to the state water board which days of the week they have limited watering to, and whether they are enforcing any fines or penalties on violators.

Many California restaurants already are limiting water to diners.

At Delicious Crepes Bistro in Santa Clara, which serves vegan fare and whose mission statement promises to be environmentally friendly, the staff says they are already careful with drinking water. When the drought became serious last year, they added a water-filled thermos on the counter and asked customers to serve themselves, with a sign on the wall saying "take only as much as you can drink." The glasses next to it are their smallest, 12-ounce size.

"Originally, we poured water from a pitcher into bigger glasses," said Hanna Mityashina, 28, the cafe's manager. "When noticed when we reduced the size of the glasses, it reduces the consumption. We want to preserve water."

Next door at Chef Ming's, owner Diana Lee says that serving water to customers is part of being a polite hostess. "When I got to a restaurant, I hope someone can give me water — cold water or hot tea. Do you just say, 'Are you ready to order?'"

She said she hopes the law is flexible enough that she can ask if the customer wants water, and not just wait for customers to request it. Already, she says, when water is left on the tables, "I throw it on my plants because I feel so guilty."

Two of her customers, Marilyn Keever and Barbara Fairburn, say waiting for a water request is a good idea. But Keever joked that she has even better one: "If you ask for water, you have to drink the whole thing or you'll be arrested, handcuffed and taken away."

*Staff writer Julia Sulek contributed to this story.*





## Proposed recycled water pipeline to serve Sonoma Valley schools

**BY ELOÍSA RUANO GONZÁLEZ THE PRESS DEMOCRAT on March 18, 2015, 12:05PM03/18/2015**

An informational meeting will be held Thursday to discuss a proposal to build a \$3 million pipeline to provide Sonoma Valley schools with recycled water for landscape irrigation.

The Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District could begin construction on the pipeline next year and start delivering recycled water to Sonoma Valley High, Adele Harrison Middle and Prestwood Elementary schools by the end of 2016. By using recycled water, officials said it would reduce the school district's reliance on water from the Russian River to irrigate playing fields.

The practice could save an estimated \$60,000 annually between the three schools, said Sonoma Valley Unified School District Superintendent Louann Carlomagno.

The treated water also may be used to irrigate a Sonoma city park on Engler Street and agricultural fields in the valley, according to the Sonoma County Water Agency, which manages the local sanitation district. The project is in line to receive a state grant for more than a \$1 million, officials said.

District staff members will be on hand to answer questions and take public comment on the proposed pipeline during the meeting, scheduled for 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Sonoma Valley High School library.

To get a glimpse into how the valley's recycled water treatment system works, the public also is invited to take a tour of the sanitation district, 22675 Eighth St., East, Sonoma. The tour will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on April 18.

## Timing change for CSD ballot

By J.W. Burch IV, [jburch@record-bee.com](mailto:jburch@record-bee.com), @JWBurchIV on Twitter

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LAKEPORT >> The Lake County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution requesting to change election years for the Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District Tuesday.

Currently, the district's directors are elected to the board in November of odd-numbered years. After the process is done, the directors will be elected in November of even-numbered years.

According to Lake County Registrar of Voters Diane Fridley, the first step of the process is submitting a resolution to change the election cycle. Which was presented to the board Tuesday. The second step "will be for Board staff to notify all districts within Lake County to ask for input from each district on the effect of consolidation."

Specifics of notification are not included in the Elections Code, but Fridley recommended mailing a letter to each district with an elected governing board, as well as posting the letter on the Board's web page.

Finally, after input is garnered from other districts the board is required to hold a public hearing on the request by April 28 at latest.

"Prior to the adoption of Hidden Valley Lake Community Service District's consolidation request, the Registrar of Voters will be submitting an Impact Analysis/Cost Effectiveness Report on changing the election of directors from odd-year to even-year elections for your Board to review as well as any responses from Districts within Lake County regarding the consolidation," Fridley said.

"However, pursuant to Elections Code Section 10404, your Board 'shall' approve Hidden Valley Lake CSD's resolution requesting consolidation," Fridley continued. "Unless the county finds that the ballot style, voting equipment or computer capacity cannot handle another district to be consolidated with the even-year election."

The board unanimously approved the resolution with a 5-0 vote.

## Multiple Lake County water systems still under mandatory conservation

By J.W. Burch IV, [jburch@record-bee.com](mailto:jburch@record-bee.com), [@JWBurchIV](#) on Twitter

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LAKE COUNTY >> Multiple water systems overseen by Lake County Special Districts are still under strict conservation orders. The Paradise Valley, Spring Valley, Mount Hannah, Bonanza Springs and Starview water systems all remain in urgency ordinances with mandatory conservation measures.

"Looking at conditions of these wells, I don't see us lifting those urgency ordinances anytime soon," Lake County Special Districts Compliance Coordinator Jan Coppinger said.

Paradise Valley Water System saw the greatest decrease, with a drop of 17 percent over last year, when combining all three of the system's wells. When compared to 2013, the system has seen a 21 percent reduction. Water systems in Kono Tayee, North Lakeport and Soda Bay remain under voluntary conservation measures.

Yet the heavy rains of mid-December and the accumulation recorded in February eased some of the orders around the county. In December, two of the districts 10 water systems were reduced from stage four of the county's drought management plan to stage one. Stage one of the plan calls for voluntary conservation.

Urgency ordinances for the Finley and Kelseyville water systems were lifted with conservation encouraged, because "analysis of the production, consumption and conditions of the wells indicates that it is not necessary," Coppinger said shortly after the December storm.

The Indian Valley Reservoir was between 1,356 and 1,358 feet on Feb. 28 last year, but had increased to 1,405 feet on the same date this year. The greatest increase can be seen in the Mount Hannah water system's old well, which improved 10 percent over last years totals has been seen, but is still down by 38 percent from 2013's totals. The district completed a new well in August. The new well's level have remained unchanged since December, which is 111 feet.

The well in the Kono Tayee water system has seen a improvement of 1 percent over last year, but a decrease of 2 percent when compared to 2013. Bonanza Springs Water System's two wells have also improved by 1 percent over last year, but is still 15 percent lower than 2013's totals.

Starview Water System's single well is 2 percent less than last year, and 15 percent lower than it was in 2013.

With improvement to water levels in Clear Lake and the Indian Valley Reservoir, Coppinger said she thinks this summer won't be worse than last.

On Feb. 28 last year, Clear Lake was floated between 1.30 and 1.41 on the Rumsey Gauge according to the U. S. Geological Survey. However, on the same date this year, the lake was between 4.5 and 4.54 on the Rumsey Gauge.

"I think where we are at today ... it is not quite as bleak," Coppinger said. "We are in a little better shape than last year."

#### Advertisement

Data collected as of Feb. 28 regarding the status of each systems wells showed the ratio of improvements and decreases over last year's numbers are relatively even. However, when compared to well levels in 2013, most systems have seen a decrease.

*Contact J. W. Burch, IV at 900-2022.*